

Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2024 with funding from

Funded in part by an operating support grant from the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State















HISTORY OF



and

*North Plainfield*



EMBRACING A DESCRIPTIVE HISTORY  
OF THE MUNICIPAL, RELIGIOUS,  
SOCIAL AND COMMERCIAL INSTI-  
TUTIONS, WITH BIOGRAPHICAL  
SKETCHES

---

---

*Profusely Illustrated*

---

---

COMPILED BY

F. T. SMILEY

FOR

THE PLAINFIELD COURIER-NEWS  
PLAINFIELD, N. J.

1901



PR  
974.939  
Sm 4

## *Publishers' Introduction*



IN the following pages may be found a comprehensive history of the City of Plainfield, from the days of its early settlement up to its present condition of creditable size and prosperity.

A reference is also made of the neighboring borough of North Plainfield.

It has been the aim of the Publishers to make this record comprehensive of the most trustworthy facts about the past progress and present status of this progressive community, and to include within the pages some mention of the institutions of Plainfield and its vicinity—the schools and churches, the factories, workshops and stores; the public officials and professional citizens in the sphere of law, education and medicine; and last, but not least, the substantial business men, of large or small degree, whose energy and enterprise have contributed largely to the growth and development of this community.

To the following contributors to this volume, the publishers owe grateful acknowledgments: Rev. A. H. Lewis, who prepared the early history; Harry C. Runyon, for matter relating to the Municipal Government; Henry M. Maxson and Homer J. Wightman, who supplied the chapters devoted to the public schools; Charles E. Buell, who contributed the story of the Plainfield Post-office; T. O. Doane for matter concerning the Fire Department; and to the various clergymen of Plainfield and the borough for contributions relating to their respective churches.

That the work outlined above has been accomplished with satisfaction to the not too critical reader is the hope and expectation of the publishers.







	PAGE
CHAPTER I	
Geological History--Trap Rock--Glacial Action-- Water Works . . . . .	1-3
CHAPTER II	
First Inhabitants of Plainfield--Securing their Land-- Indian Money . . . . .	4-6
CHAPTER III	
Settlers from Europe--Early Laws--Money Slavery . . .	7, 8
CHAPTER IV	
First Settlements within the City of Plainfield--The Gordon Family--The Fullertons . . . . .	9-11
CHAPTER V	
Old Landmarks--The Second Quaker Meeting House --The Martine Place . . . . .	12, 13
CHAPTER VI	
An Intermediate Historian--Educational Items--New Line--Cloth Dressing--A Look Forward . . . . .	14-16
CHAPTER VII	
Plainfield of To-day--The Municipal Government . . .	17-19
CHAPTER VIII	
Plainfield Public Schools--Private Schools . . . . .	20-30
CHAPTER IX	
Plainfield Churches--Young Men's Christian Ass'n . . .	31-41
CHAPTER X	
The Plainfield Post Office . . . . .	42-46
CHAPTER XI	
The Plainfield Fire and Police Departments . . . . .	47-51
CHAPTER XII	
Transportation--Banks--Plainfield Public Library-- Muhlenberg Hospital--Lighting--Plainfield Water Supply Company . . . . .	52-54
CHAPTER XIII	
Plainfield Newspapers . . . . .	55-56
CHAPTER XIV	
Manufacturing Industries . . . . .	57-61
CHAPTER XV	
Biographical . . . . .	62-101
CHAPTER XVI	
The Borough of North Plainfield--Borough Officers from 1885 to 1901, inclusive--Public Schools-- Fire Department . . . . .	102-105
CHAPTER XVII	
North Plainfield Churches . . . . .	106-108



## BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX

### A

	PAGE
ABBOTT, CHARLES FRANKLIN . . . . .	73
ABBOTT, JOHN . . . . .	100
ABBOTT, WILLIAM HENRY . . . . .	100
ACKERMAN, ERNEST R. . . . .	73
ADAMS, DANIEL CORY, M.D. . . . .	83
ADELMANN, JOHN H. . . . .	92
ALLEN, JOSEPH CROSS . . . . .	91
ANGLEMAN, WINFIELD SCOTT . . . . .	88

### B

BABCOCK, GEORGE H. . . . .	64
BAKER, VINCENT W., D.D.S. . . . .	91
BALDWIN, A. GUSTUS CHESTER . . . . .	69
BANTLE, JOHN G. . . . .	100
BARNABY, FRANK AUSTIN . . . . .	78
BAXTER, CHARLES J. . . . .	80
BERGEN, FRANK . . . . .	86
BIRD, ELIAS H. . . . .	95
BLATZ, FRANCIS J. . . . .	87
BOICE, DAVID J. . . . .	73
BOND, REV. LEWIS . . . . .	70
BUCHANAN, JOSEPH HENRY, M.D. . . . .	90
BUCKLE, JAMES F. . . . .	98
BUELL, CHARLES E. . . . .	79

### C

CAHOONE, STEPHEN . . . . .	81
CAMPBELL, JOHN HENRY . . . . .	93
CARMAN, JOHN H., M.D. . . . .	90
CARSON, S. B. . . . .	94
CLARK, JAMES . . . . .	67
CLARK, ROBERT, JR. . . . .	97
CLARK, ROBERT MARTIN . . . . .	87
CLIFTON, CHARLES B. . . . .	98
CODDINGTON, WILLIAM A. . . . .	85
CODINGTON, WILLIAM REUBEN . . . . .	86
COLES, ABRAHAM . . . . .	62
COLES, JONATHAN ACKERMAN . . . . .	63
COLE, GEORGE W. . . . .	93
CORIELL, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN . . . . .	71
CORIELL, WILLIAM McDOWELL . . . . .	71
COWARD, JOSEPH B. . . . .	85
COX, ROWLAND . . . . .	66
CREGAR, PETER BODINE . . . . .	91
CROSS, HON. JOSEPH . . . . .	83
CURRIE, NORMAN WILBUR, M.D. . . . .	90

### D

DEALAMAN, ADAM . . . . .	95
DEPEW, RICHARD HENRY . . . . .	92
DOANE, THADDEUS OSBORN . . . . .	50

### E

ENDICOTT, GEORGE WOODHULL, M.D. . . . .	88
-----------------------------------------	----

### F

FISK, CHARLES JOEL . . . . .	74
FOOTE, HON. CHARLES SEWARD . . . . .	83
FORCE, ALBERT L. . . . .	97
FOWLER, HON. CHARLES NEWELL . . . . .	82
FRENCH, FRANK WHITNEY, D.D.S. . . . .	92
FRENCH, PHINEAS M. . . . .	69
FRITTS, JOHN T., M.D. . . . .	89



## BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX—*Continued*

### G

GAVETT, ANDREW J. . . . .	96
GILBERT, ALEXANDER . . . . .	69
GROSS, EUGENE A. . . . .	97

### H

HYDE, CHARLES W. . . . .	73
--------------------------	----

### J

JACKSON BUILDING, THE . . . . .	100
JENKINS, OLIN L., M.D. . . . .	88
JOHNSTON, JOHN TAYLOR . . . . .	68
JONES, FRANK W. . . . .	100

### K

KENNEY, ANDREW ELLSWORTH . . . . .	93
KENNEY, DAVID THOMAS . . . . .	93
KENNEY, JOHN JOSEPH . . . . .	93
KIELY, PATRICK S. . . . .	50
KIRK, WILLIAM TITUS . . . . .	98

### L

LANGHORNE, FRANK C. . . . .	99
LEONARD, CHARLES W., D.D.S. . . . .	91
LEWIS, ABRAHAM HERBERT, A.M., D.D. . . . .	79
LONG, MONROE BUDD, M.D. . . . .	89
LOUNSBURY, FRED. C. . . . .	96
LOVELL, LEANDER NEWTON . . . . .	70
LUDLUM, JOHN LEFFERTS . . . . .	68

### M

MARTIN, FRANK L. C. . . . .	92
MARTIN, EDSON COLEMAN . . . . .	97
MARTINE, JAMES E. . . . .	97
MAXSON, HENRY MARTIN . . . . .	80
MEEKER, HON. ELIAS R. . . . .	84
MILLER, REV. WILLIAM H. . . . .	75
MOFFETT, CHARLES LEONARD . . . . .	88
MULFORD, EDWARD CAMPBELL . . . . .	72
MURRAY, ROGER FRANKLIN . . . . .	96
MURRAY, WILLIAM H., M.D. . . . .	90
MURPHY, CLARENCE LOGAN . . . . .	87
MURPHY, REV. THOMAS LOGAN . . . . .	75

### N

NEGLEY, JAMES SCOTT . . . . .	75
NEWCORN, WILLIAM . . . . .	86

### P

POPE, ELIAS R. . . . .	72
POWLISON, JOHN A. . . . .	100

### R

RANDOLPH, LEWIS WARREN . . . . .	94
REED, CHARLES ARTHUR . . . . .	84
REINHART, JOSEPH W. . . . .	78
ROCKFELLOW, GEORGE W. . . . .	96
RUNYON, ALEXANDER M. . . . .	73
RUNYON, ELMER E. . . . .	98
RUNYON, FRANK WILLITS . . . . .	96
RUNYON, HARRY CHASE . . . . .	87
RUNYON, JOHN D. . . . .	73

### S

SCOTT, WALTER . . . . .	75
SCHIPPER, CHARLES W. G. E. . . . .	74
SCHLOSS, MOSES . . . . .	100
SCHWED BROTHERS . . . . .	100
SLEVIN, JAMES L. . . . .	98
SMITH, CHESTER M. . . . .	84
SMITH, FRANK HOWARD . . . . .	92

## BIOGRAPHICAL INDEX—*Continued*

### S

SMALLEY, NEWTON B. . . . .	95
STAATS, JOHN A. . . . .	95
STANBERY, WILLIAM CURRY . . . . .	79
STANBERY, WILLIAM RUNYON . . . . .	79
STILLMAN, CHARLES H., M.D. . . . .	65
STILLMAN, WILLIAM M. . . . .	85
STREULI, HERMANN ALFRED . . . . .	74
SWACKHAMER, S. S. . . . .	86
SMYTH, REV. P. E. . . . .	75

### T

THIERS, CHARLES RANDOLPH, D.D.S. . . . .	91
THORPE, CURTIS MONROE . . . . .	99
TOBIN, GEORGE JAMES . . . . .	98
TOMLINSON, THOMAS H., M.D. . . . .	89
TYLER, COL. MASON WHITING . . . . .	66

### V

VAN EMBURGH, H. C. . . . .	94
VAN HORN, ALFRED F., M.D. . . . .	90
VOORHEES, HON. FOSTER M. . . . .	81

### W

WHITE, WILLIAM . . . . .	72
WIGHTMAN, HOMER J. . . . .	99
WOODHULL, FLOYD T. . . . .	97

### Y

YERKES, REV. DAVID JOHN . . . . .	74
-----------------------------------	----

### Z

ZEGLIO, PETER J., M.D. . . . .	88
--------------------------------	----

---



---

## MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

ALUMINUM PRESS CO., THE . . . . .	57
CRESCENT EMBOSsing CO., THE . . . . .	60
HIBBARD-RODMAN-ELY SAFE CO., THE . . . . .	60
NILES, BEMENT, POND CO., THE . . . . .	59
MANTZ BROS. . . . .	60
MANTZ, T & G. . . . .	60
PERRIN, FRERES & CO. . . . .	60
POTTER PRINTING PRESS CO., THE . . . . .	59
SCOTT PRINTING MACHINE WORKS, THE . . . . .	59
SCHEPFLIN & SCHULTZ . . . . .	60
SOWDEN, S. B. . . . .	60
WATCHUNG SILK CO., THE . . . . .	60





PRINTED BY



Engravings by  
THE HOPKINS COMPANY  
5th Ave. and 16th Street  
New York

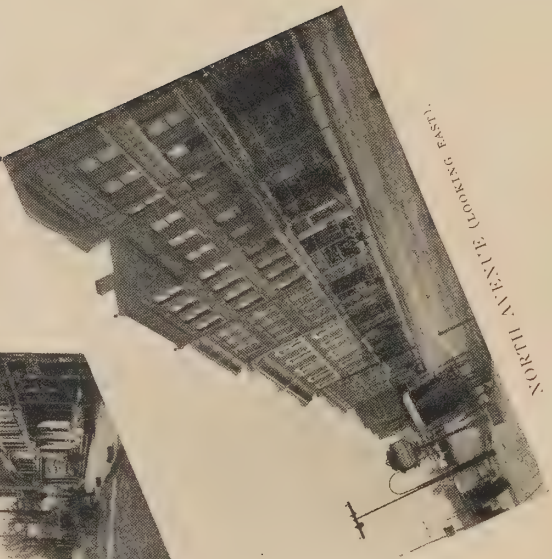
Photographs for Portraits by  
FRANK C. LANGHORNE  
Plainfield, N. J.

Photographs of Views by  
GUILLERMO THORN  
and  
GEORGE H. FOUNTAIN

PARK AVENUE (LOOKING SOUTH).



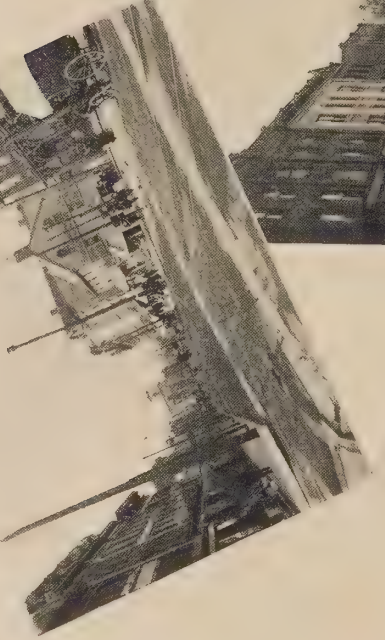
NORTH AVENUE (LOOKING EAST).



FRONT STREET (LOOKING EAST).



SOMERSET STREET (LOOKING NORTH).



FRONT STREET (LOOKING WEST).





# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER I.

### GEOLOGICAL HISTORY—TRAP ROCK—GLACIAL ACTION—WATER WORKS.

Human history is made up of traditions and of written records in various forms. These extend from the simplest forms of folk-lore and the rudest inscriptions, hieroglyphic and otherwise, up to written language. Back of human history thus preserved is the larger field of the history of our planet and of the universe of which it is a part. All history is made up of successive forces, each connected with the other and combining to make an unbroken series of causes and results. Each result becomes a cause in turn, and hence history is a living organism. There is nothing fortuitous, no chance work, in history. Everything is under the guidance and supervision of a divine power, wise to create, watchful, compassionate, and loving to preserve and continue whatever it creates. While this fact is less likely to be noted in material, mundane history, it is no less true in that department than in human history. Every stage in the creative process of our planet has gone forward under a divine purpose. This divine and controlling purpose on the part of the Creator is beneficent in the highest degree, and man's highest good, by way of happiness and training for something yet higher, is the one controlling and the all-embracing end. No lower conception than this is worthy of the student of history, who would learn the deeper meaning of the chain of historic causes and events, and the purpose which each is intended to serve.

That which men call Nature is but another name for divine wisdom, power and love. All natural forces are divine forces. That which we call insensate matter is only static force. God did not create our planet nor any part of the universe "out of nothing." On the other hand, the beginning of all creative processes is divine power, objectized and localized, as the great creative cause, working with supreme intelligence along all lines creates for the purpose we have already indicated. The old Persian error of two eternal, antagonistic forces, Spirit and Matter, was an incomplete conception which thinking men discarded, long ago.

The highest expression of creative power, wisdom and love finds its fulfillment in the human race, for which all other created things have been and are. Considering our own planet, we find it abounding in those things which men need. We also find men so related to the planet and that which it contains, that, with each advancing step in knowledge, they are able to develop, for their good, the riches and forces which the earth contains. For example, the minerals of all kinds, hidden away, await the coming of man, that he may gather and fashion them for highest uses. The great sources of human wealth, as gold, gems, pearls and diamonds, together with lesser things, all come obedient to man's call, to enrich and adorn him. All the great forces combine to do him service as soon as he learns how to put himself in right relations with them. The winds are taught to swell his canvas and speed his bark, while the stars grant him safe guidance across what otherwise would be pathless oceans. Fire and water, two divine forces, unite to give

a third that we call steam, which, as a motive power, is applied in endless ways. More subtle still is that other force we call electricity, which seems to be the abounding life of the universe. Properly invited, it comes to light our homes and make noonday in our streets at midnight. As a motor it annihilates space, and outruns time as a means of communicating thought. The surface of the earth throbs with productive life in forest, field and garden, each striving with the other to furnish sustenance and clothing, to delight the eye with beauty, to instruct the intellect along the paths of science, and to heap comforts into the lives of men. All things below man have been created as agencies and sources of the highest good and greatest comfort for the great family of an all-loving Father. Seen from such a standpoint, this planet is not a speck in space, but the carefully prepared home for the highest race of God's creatures. The purpose of all this beneficence is to develop, culture and uplift men from savagism, through the various stages of civilization, to the highest spiritual development, preparatory for a still higher existence in the next life. Creative wisdom and parental love have combined, through all the ages, for these great ends.

The creation of our world has involved a length of time and an expression of power both so stupendously great that men must despair of measuring them. But the various stages by which this creation has been developed are so well marked in the rock-written history of the planet that already the science of geology enables us to read with such accuracy what has been in the past that we, being informed, are incited to larger investigation, deeper love, and more abiding confidence in the creating Father. As the history of the planet is not complete without a knowledge of the records which the earth contains, so the history of any given locality on the planet ought to be prefaced by so much of the geological history as is necessary to show how wisely and well the Creator has prepared, in general and in detail, that which is best for his children. Hence this pre-view concerning the

### GEOLOGICAL HISTORY.

Three distinct phases of geological history appear in and around Plainfield and bear directly upon the present well-being of the city. These three phases are represented by the Triassic formation, which constitutes a large part of the surface of the surrounding country, the Glacial formation, and the Trap-Rock formation of the Watchung Mountains. These are all of late date in geological history. Ages preceded the appearance of these Triassic and Glacial formations, while their development, and the time which has elapsed since then, covers still other ages. The Triassic formation is the lower of the three divisions of what are known as fossiliferous rocks, which are from the Mesozoic or secondary series, and contain large fossil deposits of plants, together with tracks and remains of the lower forms

of the vertebrate animals. In other words, the Triassic, with its associate formations, represent the second of the great types of life as they appeared in the process of creation. This triassic formation, which appears in and about Plainfield, is part of the great triassic belt of the Atlantic coast. That belt is well defined, from the Connecticut valley southward, through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and into North Carolina. Its rocks are the various sandstones and the associate shale. The red shale so common about Plainfield, and so noticeable in the higher lands beyond South Plainfield, toward New Brunswick—improperly called "shell"—is a fine representative of this triassic formation. Consider what the sandstone rock, alone, means for the comfort and convenience of the present inhabitants of the city. Sandstone is powdered quartz, which is one of the primary rocks, millions of centuries old. Back in the glacial period the great quartz mills of the universe pulverized this almost unyielding rock, and by various changes, in which water was the main factor, it was deposited throughout the triassic belt. The quartz dust thus provided now gives the finest of material, easily shaped and yet so durable that when placed in buildings, foundations, or bridges, it still defies the ravages of time. When Martinville and Washingtonville yield up the wealth of their quarries, all who avail themselves of those treasures are gathering the results from causes which creative wisdom set in motion, so long ago that thought refuses all efforts at measuring the time or the processes by which they have been brought about. Nevertheless, nothing offers a finer proof of creative wisdom and of the oneness of history.

#### TRAP ROCK.

Long before the triassic period, that which now forms the Watchung Mountains lay far down toward the inner heart of the earth. It is a rock which existed before there was animal life on the planet, and but for the mighty convulsions which have attended the creative process, our streets could never have been macadamized as they are. When noiseless bicycles and ghost-footed, rubber-tired carriages glide over our well-finished streets, those who ride enter into the labors of the divine Creator, who, by a long process of pressure and heat, changed softest mud to the ringing iron stone of our trap hills, to make street-beds for these years. This formation lay quiet during untold periods, until the earth was well-nigh fitted for the coming of man. Then, by mighty convulsions, portions of this trap rock were thrust up through the overlying strata and crowded far above the triassic which covered that region. By this up-thrusting, it was broken into shapes with almost mathematical accuracy, and fitted for the wants of man, from the fashioning of the rudest hut, built by the aborigines, to the finest foundation which scientific skill now fashions. As we listen to the sound of the crushing mills on Somerset street, we hear the response men are making to that creative wisdom and foresight which prepared, in such abundance, at this particular place, such a needed product for the permanency of our homes and streets. Almost endless are the things of utility and permanence that come from the fact that, by mighty convulsions, this azoic rock was pushed through all its coverings to await the unearthing which now goes forward, day by day, and the use of which has converted our streets from undesirable dirt roads to choice boulevards. Simple as it may seem, there is here another overwhelming evidence of the beneficent purposes wrought through ages, for the sake of the people who read these lines.

#### GLACIAL ACTION.

Among the latest influences which came in to fit this planet for the high purposes of man, ice and water held a prominent place. Without discussing in detail the theories concerning glacial action, it is enough to say that over the whole northern part of the continent, reaching away toward Baffin's Bay, there was once a mighty covering of ice, a great ice cap, which, through endless time and by slow changes, wrought the surface of this portion of the planet into its present outline of form. Plainfield is located just at the southern edge of this ice cap, which was at least 2,000 feet in thickness, with a pressure of sixty tons to the square foot. Starting at the banks of Amboy Bay, a little south of Florida Grove, and coming toward Plainfield by way of Fords Corners, passing between Robinville and Metuchen, to the south of Oak Tree, and touching Holly Farm, to the bluffs that form the beautiful golf grounds, the cemetery and Netherwood Heights, continuing the line along the edge of the level land between Fairwood and Scotch Plains, and so on to Summit, then working westward in a similar irregular course to Belvidere, then striking still further west across the intervening country to Ohio, we have the edge of the well-marked terminal moraine of this great ice field. The immense mass of sand, gravel and boulders which mark this terminal moraine indicate how the slow grinding of the ice, as it moved and melted, brought down from the north and northeast material enough to border a continent. Analyzing that material, we find in it a museum of specimens which delight the scientist and challenge study. Hillside Cemetery, with its beauteous conformation, and its soil so well fitted for the sacred purpose to which it has been dedicated, was laid down, as one might say, for that especial purpose, while the houses which already crown the heights at Netherwood stand upon the foundation which the great creative forces gathered from points on the continent too far away to be measured.

#### WATER WORKS.

Largest in point of importance to the present and future history of Plainfield is the preparation which this glacial epoch made for our water supply. Just where the wells that supply the city of Plainfield stand is a pocket in the terminal moraine, at a point where a glacial river made its way from under the ice and continued its flow until a deep reservoir was formed, the bottom of which was filled with coarse gravel, over which a deep layer of sand, capped by a layer of clay, has been added, until this pocket, which is part of the still greater water course, has been securely sealed from contamination by any influence from the present surface. The source of the great water course which flows through and fills this pocket is doubtless found in the great geological Passaic lake, which once filled the valley to the west of the second range of the Watchung Mountains and extended northward along the present Passaic valley to the northern limit of the State of New Jersey, or beyond. This lake was the product of the glacial period, and by the immense quantities of ice which filled Northern New Jersey the pre-glacial course of the water in that section was changed and the opening for the present Passaic river was made. Thus a system of perfect filtration, such as God provided, has furnished this great stream of pure water ever since the glacial period; and, unless creative power intervenes, it will continue until history grows gray with succeeding centuries. Here, again, is evidence of the wisdom and care with which creative power wrought out the preparatory history of the site of Plainfield.

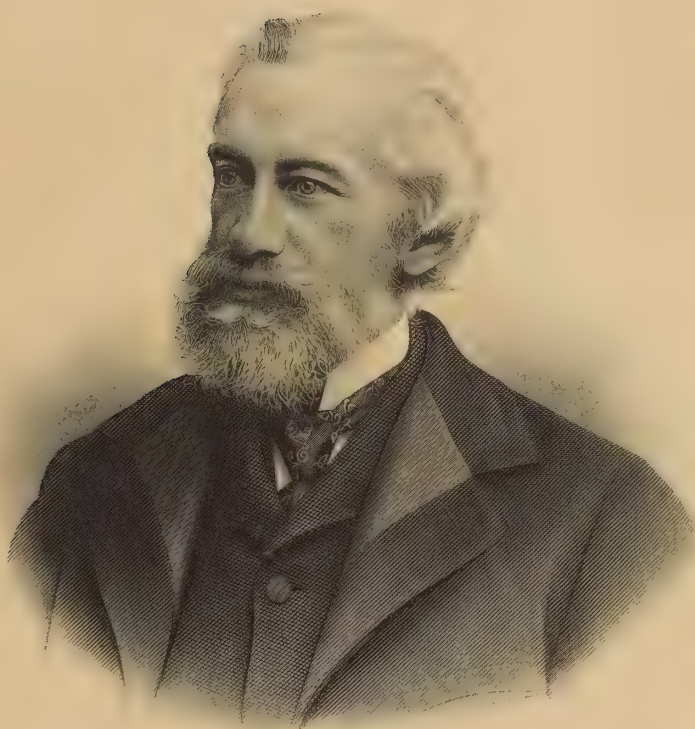






Abraham





*J. A. Korman Coles.*





The same wisdom and care appear in the creation of the ground upon which the main part of the city now stands. Originally—that is, before the glacial period—there was a broad valley, at the northern and western side of which was the First Mountain, while the eastern and southern side was marked by the high ridge of red shale rock which now forms the surface beyond South Plainfield, as you go toward New Brunswick. This valley was then from thirty to fifty feet below the present surface. It was topographically beautiful, and through it flowed the parent stream of Green Brook. During the glacial period, while the ice melted slowly—the waters issuing in greater or less profusion, according to the temperature—the gravel and sand brought down from the far north and reduced to various degrees of fineness, were washed into this valley. The process was slow, but the result was most satisfactory. It has given a soil to the entire site of Plainfield in which water cannot become stagnant, and a system of perfect filtration, which, in addition to the clay cap that lies above the underground stream, furnishes additional security from any possible contamination of water in the wells which still exist in the city. This formation is spoken of in the State Geologist's Report for 1894 in the following words:

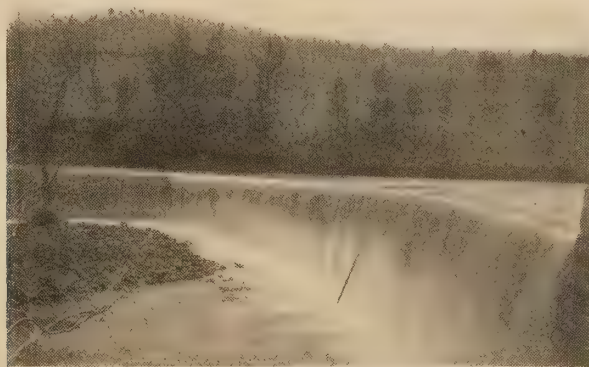
"Associated with the green color on the map, there are many areas of yellow. These lie partly on one side of the moraine and partly on the other. They represent the stratified drift deposits made by the waters resulting from the melting of the ice. When the edge of the glacier occupied the position of the moraine, the waters produced by its melting, and flowing from it, carried sand and gravel far beyond. This is especially notable in the area from Plainfield to Bound Brook and beyond, and in the area south of Morristown, where Lake Passaic lay when the ice edge stood at the moraine. As the ice melted back to the northeast, the waters, arising from its wastage, deposited more or less sand and gravel along the lines of drainage, thus giving rise to stratified drift northeast of the moraine, and

represented on the map by the yellow-colored areas in that position.

"The stratified drift assumed different forms in different positions. Outside the moraine it was sometimes deposited in the form of plains (over-wash plains), as from Plainfield to Metuchen, and sometimes in the form of narrow belts along valleys (valley trains). Within the area covered by the ice, it sometimes assumed the form of hillocks (kames), especially where the water issued from beneath the ice." (Page 144.)

This over-wash-plain formation, following the valley, has given to Plainfield a site most healthful, with but little difficulty in the science of drainage, which our engineers are overcoming. The official measurement of the height of Plainfield above tidewater is found at the main entrance of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, upon the center door sill, which is 106 8-10 feet above the sea. Washington's rock is 507 feet, and the highest point of the Watchung range in this section is just back of Washington's rock. If a dam 100 feet high were placed across the Raritan river at New Brunswick, and the valley of Rocky Hill were closed up, Somerville and Plainfield, together with a hundred square miles of the adjacent country, would be submerged.

Without going further into this material history, which antedates the settlement of Plainfield by men, the reader will see that a most important preparation went forward for ages, fitting up this home. If it were possible to express the length of time involved, beginning with the preparation of the trap rock and ending with the glacial and post-glacial changes, the years, as we measure them, would crowd the millions, during which this geological history was written in these various formations, leading up forward to the later history, when, all things being prepared, men were introduced, to begin the still larger problem of human history and human destiny in this beautiful and favored locality.



CODDINGTON'S DAM

# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER II.

### FIRST INHABITANTS OF PLAINFIELD—SECURING THEIR LAND—INDIAN MONEY.

Leaving out of account the pre-glacial man and the Mound Dwellers, both of whom may have had homes in this part of New Jersey, the first inhabitants of Plainfield were Indians. Speaking of the Indians who inhabited the North American continent when it was settled by Europeans, their number has been greatly exaggerated. There are probably quite as many Indians now upon the continent as there have been at any time since its discovery. It was practically vacant territory, when compared with the density of the population in Europe, or with the present population of the United States. Poets or historians, who drew upon their imagination for their facts, have peopled the continent with Indians who never existed. Benjamin Franklin once told the ministers of King George III. that, rather than submit to their demands, he would take his gun and fishing-rod and cross the Alleghanies, seeking a new home. In making this statement, he was in accord with the general fact that opportunities for new homes were found everywhere on the continent, because there was so much uninhabited territory.

It was on Sunday, the 6th day of September, 1609, that New York Bay and the country adjacent to it was discovered by Henry Hudson, who anchored his two-masted Vlie-boat of eighty tons burden, named the Half-Moon, near Sandy Hook. On the next day, Indians visited the ship, of whom it is said they were "Very glad of our coming, and brought greene Tobacco, and gaue vs of it for Kniues and beads. They go in Deere skins, well dressed. They haue yellow Copper. They desire Cloathes, and are very ciuill. They haue great store of Maiz or *Indian* Wheate, whereof they make good Bread. The Countrey is full of great tall Oakes."

On landing, Hudson's men saw:

"Great store of Men, Women and Children, who gaue them Tobacco, at their comming on Land. So they went vp into the Woods and saw a great store of very goodly Oakes and some Currants. One of them came aboard and brought some dried. Many others, also, came aboard, some in Mantels of Feathers, and some in Skinnes and diuers sorts of good Furses. Some women also came with Hempe. They had red Copper Tobacco pipes, and other things of red Copper they did weare about their neckes." (Hatfield's History of Elizabeth, page 18).

One group of American Indians, known as the Algonquin family, numbered perhaps half a million. These occupied the territory from the Atlantic ocean to the Rocky Mountains and from the Canadian border to South Carolina. Their natural boundaries of what is now included in New Jersey were the Delaware river on the south and the Hudson on the north. The leading tribe in New Jersey at the time when Europeans began to settle here were known as the Leni-Lenappe, or Delaware, tribe. The tribes at the north, Mohicans, Adirondacks and Manhattans, together with the Shawnees of Pennsylvania, belonged to the same branch of

the Algonquin family. The name Leni-Lenappe indicated dwellers in the east. These were divided into numerous small tribes, which usually bore some local name. They were hardy, vigorous, inclined to be peaceable, though relentless in warfare when driven to strife. They were tall and well formed. The women, as is usually the case, were much smaller than the men. The beards and eyebrows of the men were plucked out, as they had great objection to hair upon the face. The games which were common among the Indian children were similar to those which American boys play at this time. The boys were taught hunting and fishing at an early age, and the girls, in mere childhood, were set at the heavier tasks which their mothers performed. As among all aboriginal tribes, these duties included the preparation of food, building of huts, tanning and dressing of skins, tilling of the soil, etc. Marriage usually occurred as early as the age of fourteen or fifteen. Burial customs were attended with elaborate ceremonies. Long periods of noisy lamentations ensued. The bodies of the dead were placed in a sitting posture, either on the surface of the ground or in very shallow graves, facing the sunrise. In this position we find traces of the ancient sun worship, so common throughout the world. Rude wooden monuments with hieroglyphic inscriptions were often placed at the graves. Like most aboriginal tribes, the Indians were greatly addicted to gambling, and the evils attendant upon it were of the same character and comparatively of the same extent as the evils which now curse more civilized nations under the gambling habit and mania.

### SECURING THEIR LAND.

The sentiments of honor which characterized the first settlements at Philadelphia under William Penn were expressed, in a good degree, by the Dutch settlers of New York and New Jersey. This prevented many acts of injustice toward the Indians which European settlers in other places committed. Hence there was not much warfare nor many serious attacks upon the early settlers of this section by the Indians. The Dutch, who were thrifty, began trading with the Indians immediately, and out of this tendency, as well as a general sentiment of honesty, the lands were usually purchased. Payment was made in clothing, mainly blankets, wampum, guns, small quantities of powder, and, unfortunately, large quantities of rum. As late as 1832, the New Jersey Legislature appropriated two thousand dollars to forty Indians, the last remnant of their tribe, for certain hunting and fishing rights which they claimed had been included in the transfer of territory made at Easton about 1758. It is stated, on good authority, that "It is a proud fact in the history of New Jersey that every foot of her soil had been obtained from the Indians by fair and voluntary purchase and transfer, a fact of which no other State in







WILLIAM JACKSON





Your's faithfully  
J. M. Bainbridge



the Union, not even the land which bears the name of Penn. can boast." An item is before us, taken from the records of a council of war held at Bergen, in September, 1673, in which the Indians sought to continue the peaceable relations between themselves and the English, who had come into possession of the territory, which had characterized their relations with the Dutch. Here is the item:

"The Sachems and Chiefs of the Hackinsagh Indians, accompanied by about twenty of their people, requested an audience, and, being admitted, state that they have been sent to the commanders by the rest of the Indians to request that, as they heretofore had lived in peace with the Dutch, they might so continue in future; declaring that on their side it was sincerely desired; in token whereof they presented about twenty deer skins, two or three laps of beaver, and one string of wampum; whereupon they were answered that their presents and proposals were accepted and they should be considered by the Government, as heretofore, good friends. In confirmation whereof, they were presented with six and a quarter ells of Checkered linen, twelve pairs of woolen hose and five cartridges of powder, for which they thanked the gentlemen and departed."

George Scot, who resided for some time in the province of East Jersey, published a book entitled "The Model of Government of the Province of East Jersey," at Edinburgh, Scotland, in 1685. Concerning the Indians, he said:

"The Indians are so far from being formidable and injurious to the Planters and inhabitants, that they are really serviceable and advantageous to them, not only in hunting and taking deer and all other wild creatures, and catching of fish and fowl fit for food in their season; but in the killing and destroying of bears, wolves, foxes and other vermin, whose skins and furs they bring to the English and sell at less price than the value of the time people must spend to take them."

Another early settler, speaking of them, says, "Some are apt to ask how we can propose safely to live amongst such a heathen people as the Indians, whose principles and practices lead them to war and bloodshed, and ours, on the contrary, to love our enemies. I answer that we settled by the Indians' consent and good liking, and bought the land of them that we settled on, which they conveyed to us by deeds under their own hand and seal, and also submitted to several articles of agreement with us not to do us any injury. But if it should happen that any of their people at any time should injure or do harm to any of us, then they have to make us satisfaction for the injury done us; therefore, if they break these covenants and agreements, then in consequence they may be proceeded against as other offenders."

The same writer speaks of another characteristic of these Indians, which might well be kept by the people of this day. He says:

"There are many of them of good understanding, considering their education, and in their public meetings of business they have excellent order, one speaking after another, and while one is speaking all the rest keep silent, and do not so much as whisper one to another."

We commend this last article to the present inhabitants, especially to those who are inclined to converse—always an evidence of poor breeding—at public gatherings, concerts, church services and the like. While there were troubles, the pictures presented are true to the general history of the early settlements in this section. Rev. John Brainard, the great apostle to the Indians, labored amongst those in northern New Jersey in a religious way in 1744 and later.

#### INDIAN MONEY.

Wampum, the money of the Indians, was the chief currency of the country for several years. Eight white wampum or four black ones were equal to two cents Dutch money or one penny in English money. White wampum was worked out of the inside of the shell of the great conch into beads which were strung on leather. The black or purple wampum was worked from the inside of the clam shell. These were made into belts about the width of one's hand and two feet in length. Such were used at treaties as seals of friendship. Every bead had a known value. The true doctrine of a stable currency is suggested by the fact that this money was secured from the shells by a large amount of labor, thus making labor the prime standard in measuring valuations. The suggestion is worth considering by some of the financial solons of our own day, who contend that money has no intrinsic value indicated by the labor necessary to secure that of which it is made.

So far as the location which Plainfield occupies is concerned, it was doubtless a desirable place of residence from the earliest period. It is effectually protected by the mountains and the water course from severe storms. Not only do the mountains interpose a barrier against cold and winds, but the great Passaic valley, on the one hand, and the Raritan valley, on the other, form natural water courses which the fiercer storms of wind and rain are likely to follow, so that at a point west and north of the city, great storms, striking the mountain ranges, are almost certain to separate or be wholly deflected as to their main force, and the storm turns to reach the sea by one or other of the valleys mentioned.

The two streams which pass through Plainfield, Green and Cedar brooks, in the earlier time, were much larger than now, and were doubtless a great source of food supply to the Indians. The banks of Green Brook, which divides the city of Plainfield from the borough of North Plainfield, and Cedar Brook, in the eastern portion of the city, were points at which the ancient people congregated. In the southwestern part of the city, Green Brook flows along the base of some bold sand and gravel bluffs. Numerous springs originally came out of the banks, furnishing water from the same great source from which our present water supply comes. Around these springs the little villages of the Indians were located. There was a degree of civilization among them which led to a greater permanency of habitation than is found among more savage tribes, and rude farming was carried forward by them. Two principal encampments have been found along Green Brook; one near where Grant and Clinton avenues now are, and another three or four miles further down the stream. These more permanent camping grounds are located now by the presence of stones which have been used in connection with fire, by the stone implements which have been lost or discarded, by broken pottery and other relics. The climate was not severe, except for a brief period in the winter, and the dwelling places of the Indians were of the simpler and ruder sort. There are evidences, however, that a group of huts, or wigwams, were sometimes inclosed in a sort of stockade, as a protection, possibly against both wild animals and enemies. Materials for grinding corn, nuts and berries indicate that these inhabitants made extensive use of cereals and of the natural fruits which the locality afforded. There are also evidences of cooking appliances for corn. They made journeys to the seashore for clams and oysters, which they dried for winter use.

Before the coming of white men, their only tools were those belonging to the stone age, only a comparatively few of which seem to have been of the neolithic type. Mr.



George Fountain, of Grant avenue, Plainfield, has a mortar, with its corresponding pestle, which seems to have been used for the purpose of preparing paints from clay, with which the countenances of noble warriors were ornamented and the charms of dusky maidens were heightened. With these rude stone implements the Indians fashioned canoes and accomplished many other things which would seem impossible to us without modern appliances. It seems that their dead were buried wrapped in skins or blankets and covered with bark. Mr. Fountain has a skull in his cabinet to which a bit of blanket still adheres, and the forehead is still covered with bark.

Another village site and burial place is found on the left of Park avenue, below Eighth street. The land originally sloped gently to the southeast. It includes the locality now occupied by First, Second and Third places, and the ground adjacent to where the Park Avenue Baptist Church is. Evidences of the burial of bodies in the sitting posture already referred to have been found there during the last half of the present century, while abundant traces of the permanent occupation of the locality have been found, by way of stone implements and other relics. These two Indian villages, at least, occupied portions of the present site of Plainfield. In both cases they were at points where natural causes had fitted up desirable dwelling places for the original inhabitants; as these same natural causes, aided by modern artificial influences, have made these and other portions of our city so desirable as places of residence at the present time.

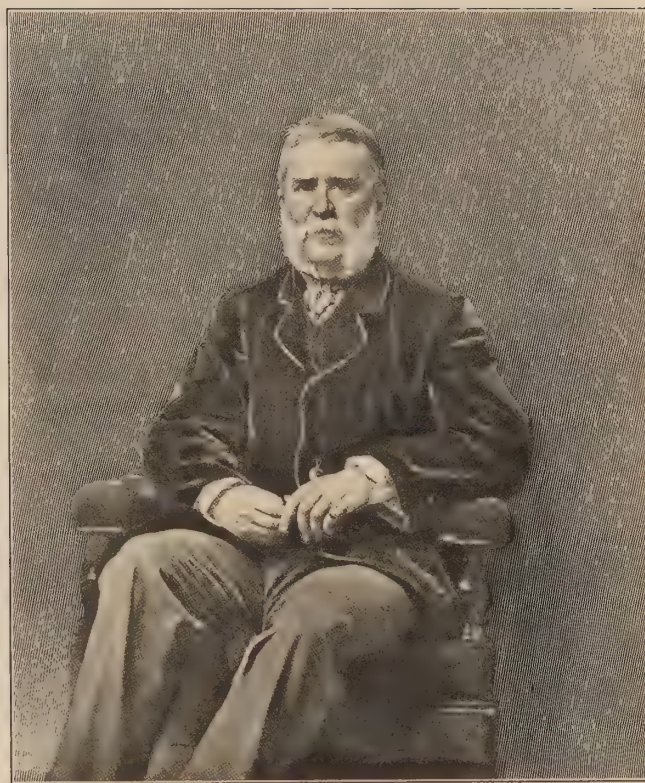
From these scattered records, it is easy to fill out the history of a people living in comparative luxury from the standpoint of the savage, and in absolute indolence, from the

standpoint of the eager, over-worked Anglo-Saxon of to-day. It is an universal as well as a beneficent law of history that the lesser civilization must yield to or be absorbed by that which is higher. While, as a whole, the treatment of the Indians since the discovery of America has not been free from things worthy of condemnation, it was an inevitable result, for the highest good of the human race, that European civilization should crowd out the savagism represented by the Indians. While it is cause for pride to the inhabitants of New Jersey that the treatment given to the Indians by the earliest settlers was so nearly in accord with Christian principles, it is cause for still greater satisfaction that, at the close of the present century, the nation and various organizations within the United States like the Mohonk Conference, are doing more than at any previous time for the civilizing and uplifting of the Indians who still remain upon the continent. One of the first steps toward securing this higher civilization is the breaking up of the former tribal relations and the development of the individual. In many places this process is now well advanced. Necessarily the two forms of life, the European and the Indian, ran side by side for a time, and to some extent commingled. It must have been, however, that with the increase of European civilization those original inhabitants whose lives did not coalesce with the new civilization must go further into the wilderness, since their methods of existence required a thinly settled population and large areas of forest and undisturbed territory from which to secure their somewhat precarious livelihood. Thus the lesser and inferior gave way to the greater and more highly developed form of life, and the Indians of New Jersey have become but a shadow slipping away into the past.



TIER'S POND





JOHN TAYLOR JOHNSTON.





— 1844 —

JOHN LEFFERTS LUDLUM



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER III.

### SETTLERS FROM EUROPE—EARLY LAWS—MONEY SLAVERY.

It is not needful here to present a detailed account of the early settlements of Europeans in New Jersey. On the other hand, the early history of Plainfield cannot be considered, justly, apart from the history of northern New Jersey. The territory which now constitutes the State was first known as *Novo Belgeria*, said to have been given from the influences of the Danes, who were associated with the Dutch at some points in the earliest settlements. It was known by the English as New Albion. When Sir George Carteret and Sir John Berkly purchased the territory from the Duke of York, in June, 1664, the general boundaries were the Hudson river on the north and the Delaware river on the west and south. Sir George Carteret, as governor of the Island of Jersey, off the coast of England, had defended that island with notable success against the forces of Oliver Cromwell. That island was originally known as *Novo Caesarea*, and, in honor of Sir George, the new territory, of which he was half owner, was designated as *Novo Caesarea* in the bill of sale granted by the Duke of York. Thus the name now written as New Jersey is directly connected with the early Roman occupation of England and stretches over a time quite equal to the Christian era.

The earliest settlements made in New Jersey were all upon tide water. The first important settlement away from tide water was made in the immediate section of Plainfield, and we shall be better prepared to trace its history and development by noting what towns already existed when settlement in the section of Plainfield began. In 1680 Captain Nichols, secretary to the Duke of York, gave a history of these towns, commencing with the most southern, which was Shrewsbury. The settlements connected with it then extended about eight miles inland along the banks of the river. It was reported as containing eighty families, who had taken possession of about 30,000 acres of land. Middletown, next to the north, contained one hundred families, occupying 30,000 acres. Piscataway, now Stelton, and the plantations connected with it had eighty families and 30,000 acres. Elizabeth Town had 150 families, occupying 40,000 acres. Newark had 100 families, occupying 50,000 acres, and Bergen seventy families and 60,000 acres; making a total of 700 families, occupying 280,000 acres. This account is supplemented by the following statement: "Reckoning five to all families, the old inhabitants in the several towns estimated to be 3,500 persons. These, besides the out plantations that cannot be so well guessed at for families of persons." The two proprietors, Carteret and Berkly, sold the territory of New Jersey to twenty-four proprietors, and their sale was confirmed by the Duke of York in March, 1682-3. Thus the territory came directly under the control of the Quakers, since all or nearly all of these twenty-four proprietors belonged to the Society of Friends; and, while there had been a form of government under the preceding proprietors, a more permanent form was established by the twenty-four, so that the political and social beginnings of the early history

were strongly marked by the influences and principles of the Quakers. It will help us to understand the influences which were wrought into the earliest history of Plainfield if we glance at some features of the early laws and early customs.

#### EARLY LAWS.

The influence of the spirit of New England is seen clearly in the penal laws which were established during this earlier period, the sharpness of these enactments being modified somewhat by the Quaker influence and that of the immigrants from Europe; but the New England element was at the fore during the whole period of the proprietary governments. As is well known, the Levitical code of laws, laid down in the Old Testament, was made the basis both of thought and language, in many respects. The Quaker element had introduced religious liberty to a much greater degree than had been done in New England, and through this influence of Quaker thought there was a general softening of the penalties and a lessening of rigidity in the matter of enforcement. It is said that the Quaker legislators made no laws against arson and prescribed no punishment for murder or treason and similar grave offences, and yet during the twenty-four years of their administration none of these crimes were known within their territories. The first penal code, which was enacted in 1668 and renewed in 1675, was somewhat modified in 1682. The death penalty prescribed in this code was connected with arson, murder, and perjury which endangered life; with the "stealing away" of any of mankind, with burglary and robbery, on the commission of the third offense. Incurable thieves were included in this. Witchcraft, conspiracy to invade or surprise a town or fort, the smiting or cursing of parents by children without provocation, and gross crimes of licentiousness were also included, but the penalty was not to be exacted save on proof of two or three witnesses. Marriages were solemnized after a license had been given and the proposed marriage published three times "in some public meeting or kirk," during a period of two weeks preceding the marriage. Since there were few inclosures, horses and cattle roamed at large and bore the legal brand of the township to which they belonged, as well as the owner's private mark. These marks were recorded. The penalty for assaults upon cattle by either man or beast, and for trespass done by cattle, and injuries done to them, were practically identical with those laid down in the twenty-first and twenty-second chapters of the Book of Exodus. Circulators of false news respecting public affairs were fined ten shillings for the first offense, and for the second offense were "whipped or stocked." In 1675 *all liars* were included, and for the second offense these were fined two shillings, in default of which they were set in the stocks or received corporal punishment. The stocks took the place of prisons. Severe laws were made "concerning the beastly vice of drunkenness." The first offense was



punished by fines, but after the third offense corporal punishment was resorted to if the enlarging fine was not paid. After 1682, the punishment for drunkenness was made still more severe. Similar rules were made concerning the retailing of liquors by tavernkeepers and others. Personal rights were guarded in a very liberal way, no imprisonment for debt being allowed, except where fraud was intended. All prizes, stage plays, games, masques, revels, bull baitings and cock fights, which excite people to rudeness, cruelty or irreligion were discouraged and punished, according to the nature of the offense. Profane swearing, "taking God's name in vain," was punished by a fine of one shilling for each offense, as early as 1668. In 1682 the fine was raised to two shillings and sixpence, and in default of payment the offender was placed in the stocks or whipped, according to his age, twelve years being the minimum. The observance of Sunday was required, and the breaking of this law was punished by confinement in the stocks, fines, imprisonment or whipping.

These provisions were aimed at what was deemed immorality, but in matters specifically religious, such as faith and practice, liberty of conscience was assured to all under the liberal spirit which characterized the Quaker element. There was, therefore, more diversity of belief in New Jersey than in other colonies, and greater freedom for the development of each form of faith. Religious services were few, and clergymen were almost unknown in the earlier times of the colony. It is said that two Scotch ministers were in the central portion of the colony at an early day, and that a clergyman of the Church of England was at Perth Amboy about 1702. The Reformed Dutch church was established in Bergen in 1662, the first building being erected in 1680. Newark being settled by Connecticut Congregationalists in 1667, had a clergyman, and a meeting house was built in 1669. At Elizabeth Town, James Peck was the first minister in 1668-78, and others followed. It is said that there is no record of a settled clergyman at Woodbridge until 1670. The first organization of the Baptists was at Piscataway, now Stelton, in 1689, and a similar organization was made at Middletown under Samuel Morgan about the same date.

#### MONEY.

The money affairs of New Jersey were more stable than in some other colonies. For some time after the settlement of the country, coins of both England and Holland were in use, while Indian wampum afforded a means of exchange with the original inhabitants. This wampum might be made by any person, and, therefore, each man became a banker according to his choice. The labor of preparing the wampum was a fair basis for the production of such coin. The

following list of prices, taken from page 248 of the "Collections of New Jersey Historical Society," Vol. 1, will interest our readers. From 1668-75 winter wheat was worth five shillings per bushel, and summer wheat four shillings and sixpence, peas three shillings and sixpence, Indian corn three shillings, rye four shillings, barley four shillings; beef two and a half pence per pound, per barrel fifty shillings; pork three and a half pence per pound, per barrel seventy shillings. Tobacco fourpence per pound.

Since corn was not plenty, and Indian wampum was not fitted for use in public funds, in 1675 tried tallow at sixpence per pound, green hides at threepence per pound, dry hides at sixpence per pound, and good bacon at sixpence per pound were made receivable in payment for taxes. A little later only wheat, peas and tobacco were received for public taxes. In 1679 and 1692 butter at sixpence per pound was legal tender for such taxes. In 1692 the payment of taxes in silver was provided for, but the use of it was left optional with the taxpayer.

#### SLAVERY.

In spite of the influence of the Quakers, many of whom were opposed to holding human beings in bondage, negro slavery was introduced in New Jersey at an early period.

Aside from the slavery of the blacks, which continued in New Jersey up to 1830, there was a form of temporary slavery by which those coming into the country as servants were bound to a master for a given number of years. Any effort on the part of a servant to break away made him liable to arrest as a criminal. There is before us a record with reference to one Robert Gray, who, on the 7th of April, 1666, bound himself as a servant for three years to Luke Watson, the consideration being that "the latter to give him at the end of the term a good cowe." Gray was evidently dissatisfied with his side of the bargain, for the next month a hue and cry for a servant belonging to Watson was made, concerning whom it was said: "He has lately absented himselfe and runn away from his Master's service." A description follows, which we copy as a specimen of English which was not uncommon in those days:

"His name Robert graij, an Englishman bornd, about 20 yeares of age, a lusty bodied portely fellow, light brownish haire, very little haire on his face, a little demij Castor and a graij broad cloth sute, the breechs tyed att the knees, and a red coate, besides a light graij coulored Serge breeches and a Snap hansminkell that hee hath stollen awaije Wth many other things. It is Supposed that hee is in Company Wth one Ruderic Powell, a pittiful fellow, who hath also absented himself and runn awaij." (Hatfield's History of Elizabeth, etc., page 117.)



WATCHUNG AVENUE (LOOKING EAST).





Geo. H. Babcock

J. C. Williams & Bro NY





*James Clarke*



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER IV.

### FIRST SETTLEMENTS WITHIN THE CITY OF PLAINFIELD—THE GORDON FAMILY—THE FULLERTONS.

As has been suggested in a former chapter, the first line of settlements away from tide-water seems to have been by way of Perth Amboy and Woodbridge to a point on Cedar Creek, including the present James Martine estate and the country adjacent thereto. It will interest our readers more if the description of the country at that time be presented in the original letters and communications of those who made the settlements.

The most important original document touching the first settlement of the city of Plainfield is a letter from Thomas Gordon, brother of the Laird of Straloch, written to Mr. George Ellison, Advocate, in Edinburgh, Scotland. It is dated,

"From the Cedar Brook of East New Jersey in *America*,  
the 16 February, 1685.

DEAR MR. GEORGE: This is the 5th time I have written to you since I came to America, some of which I am confident have come safe to your hands: so that I need not now resume them, for in them I gave you a full account of our danger by Sea, and travels by Land, and therefore I shall now proceed and begin where I left last. Upon the 18th day of November I and my Servants came here to the Woods, and 8 days thereafter my Wife and Children came also; I put up a Wigwam in 24 hours, which served us till we put up a better house; which I made 24 foot long, and 15 foot wide, containing a Hall and Kitchen both in one, and a Chamber and Study, which I put up pretty well (with Palissadoes on the sides, and Shingles on the roof). Against Yuill [Christmas time, or Yule tide], on which day we entered home to it; and have been ever since, and still am clearing ground and making fencing; So that I hope to have as much ground, cleared, fenced, plowed, and planted with *Indian Corn* in the *Beginning of May* (which is the best time for planting it) as will maintain my Family the next year, if it please God to prosper it. *Robert Fullerton* and I are to joyn for a Plow this Spring, consisting of 4 Oxen and 2 Horses, but if the ground were once broken up, 2 Oxen and 2 Horses, or 4 Oxen alone will serve; So that the next Spring I intend (God willing) to have a Plow of my own alone. I intend to build a better House and larger, and to make a Kitchen of this I am in; which I will hardly get done this Summer, because I resolved to build upon my lot at *New Perth*. I am settled here in a very pleasant place, upon the side of a brave plain (almost free of Woods) and near the water side, so that I might yoke a plow where I pleased, were not for want of Hay to maintain the Cattle, which I hope to get help the next Year, for I have several pieces of Meadow near me. The first Snow we had was about the midst of *November*, and went twice away again, and about the end of the Month it came on, and Continued with very great Frost and knee-deep Snow till towards the end of January, and then the Snow Desolved pleasantly and calmly with the heat and influence of the

Sun, and now I judge it is as warm here as it will be with you in *May*, and much more pleasant, for we are not by far so much troubled with winds here as ye are in Scotland; the winter was generally very pleasant and calm, altho sometimes very vehement Frost. I have spoken with several old inhabitants here who assure me they had not seen so hard a winter as this has been these 16 Years bygone and truly if I never see much worse I shall be very well pleased with this Countrey. We have great abundance of Deer, Turkeys, etc., here about us; and as for the wild Beasts and Natives (whereof I was greatly affrayed before I came here), I find no danger, trouble or inconveniency thereby at all; there are abundance of all sorts of Cattle in this Countrey to be had at very reasonable rates; I can buy a good Cow for 4 *lib. ster.*, a good Ox for 5 *lib. ster.* and a good Horse for 5 or 6 *lib. ster.*, a Hog for 20 *s. ster.*, a bushell of Wheat for 4 *s. ster.*, of Rye for 3s. 6d. *ster.* There are 8 of us settled here within half a mile or a mile of another, and about ten miles from the Town of *New Perth*, or Amboy-Point, so that I can go and come in a day, either on foot or on Horseback, viz: Robert and James Fullerton, James Johnstone of Spotswood, John Forbes, John Barclay, Dr. John Gordon, his Servants, Andrew Alexander and myself. This is the most of what I can say of this Countrey at present, for I intend to write nothing but what I either see or know to be certainly true, and for my part I am very well pleased with this retired Countrey life; and I love this Countrey very well as yet, altho I hear of some of our Countreymen who are not; neither can it be expected, that any Countrey in the World will please the different humours of all Persons. Blessed be god, myself and Wife and Children, and Servants, have been and are still in good health, which god continue. Be pleased to communicate this to both yours and my Friends and Acquaintances, because I have not leisure to write at great length to every one; and let those remember me to all others that give themselves the trouble to inquire for your most humble and obliged Servant,  
THOMAS GORDON."

Letters from others of this company are attainable, from which we make sufficient extracts to give other phases of the life which these first settlers of Plainfield led. Robert Fullerton, brother to the Laird of Kinnabar, writing from Amboy on the 6th of November, 1684, described the country round about Plainfield as follows (we do not attempt to repeat the peculiarities of the letter as to capitals, spelling, &c.):

"We were yesterday ranging about viewing our land, whereof you shall have account by the next. The land in general is good and agrees with the account you have heard. The trees are nothing so invincible as I did imagine, being neither so thick nor so great as we thought. The first plant which I touched was wild bayes, which grows in abundance here. The fruits are very excellent, such sorts as



I have seen, apples the best, I believe, in the world. Some I have seen of a pound weight. Cattle in general are abundantly plentiful, especially horses and oxen. The greatness and fatness of the oxen will countervail the difference of the price, being about 5 pounds sterling. The country is not altogether level as some other countries here, but hath easy risings and valleys. My new experience cannot give you such an account as you may afterwards expect, but in general the country may satisfy a rational, ingenuous mind. Yet I find there be novices who know no happiness save home with a glass of wine and comrades in a change house, though there be no want here of more noble diversions as hunting wild beasts, wild horses and deer. Yesterday I did see several droves of deer and wild horses as I did ride up in the country. The land which we were viewing is a large plain under the blue hills, watered with two or three little rivers, about eight or nine miles from New Perth and four from Raritan river northward. The land downwards is all taken up by the Quitrenters of Piscataway, Woodbridge or Elizabeth Town. There shall be nothing of care wanting in your affairs, and I do expect the like from you. I hope my grandmother is in health. Wish her from me long life and good health, and assure her she wronged the country in her opinion. Present my love to all my friends. I am

"Your affectionate brother,

"ROBERT FULLERTON."

One more extract must suffice for this place. It is a letter written by John Forbes, brother to the Laird of Barual, and directed to Mr. James Elphinston, of Logie, Edinburgh, Scotland. It is dated from Amboy-Point, alias New Perth, in the Province of East New Jersey in America, March 18, 1685. After describing the dangers and difficulties of the sea voyage, Mr. Forbes speaks of the locality about Plainfield in the following extract:

"I went out to the woods to the land we had pitched upon with several others of our countrymen, such as Thomas Gordon and Mr. Charles, his brother, brothers to the Laird of Straloch; Kinnabar's two sons, Robert and Mr. Thomas Fullerton, James Johnstone of Spotswood, and John Barclay, the Governor's brother, with some others; where we have all pitched nearby one another, upon a piece of excellent land as we suppose. Whereof I judge I have not the worst (if not the absolute best) piece of land in all the tract, for we had it all at our own choosing and not by lots. This land lies not on a navigable river, but about five or six miles from Raritan river, which is navigable up to the nearest place to our plantations, for the best places on the rivers are all inhabited by the old planters of this country, who have been here some 16 or 18 years ago. There are many places upon navigable rivers yet untaken, and some very near this place also, which is intended to be the metropolis of this province. But is generally sandy, barren land, and the best land is computed to be in the woods back some several miles from the navigable rivers. So that we rather choose land for profitableness than for conveniences to towns and pleasure entirely. For there is abundance both of good and of barren land in this province, so that a man may choose some for pleasure and some for pleasure and convenience, for I intend to take up about four or five hundred acres where I have now settled; which is on a very pleasant place and good land, and whereof I have with two hands (not having had time to get many servants away with me, having come away upon so short advertisement, and whereof I lost one at Maryland by sickness, so that now I have but two and a woman for dressing our victuals and clothes, till I get more sent me this year) already cleared, or at

least will clear and have in corn this year, about 8 or 10 acres of ground; though it was pretty thick of stately, tall timber, and that since the 26th of January, at which time I went to the woods. I have one thousand acres to take up at this time, out of the first division of ten thousand acres ordained to be laid out to every proprietor. I have bought a tenth part, whereof my brother is half sharer. I have also taken up four hundred acres of excellent fine land on Raritan river, about 20 miles above Amboy, whereon I design to set servants that I expect over this ensuing summer, and so to divide our said parcels and improve them for a year or two to the best advantage, and then to sell them off, if I design to come home, which I can do at good profit. Now for the general description of this country. It is a fine place for those who have a good stock to lay out upon a stock of cattle of all sorts, which do greatly multiply here in a short time and are sold at great rates, and may soon increase a stock greatly. Or it is a good country for an industrious, frugal man that designs to follow husbandries closely, providing he bring but some little stock to stock a plantation withal; or it is very good for tradesmen, as good carpenters, smiths, tailors, etc., who will get good wages a day; but it is not a country for idle, sluggish people; or those who cannot sometimes put to their hands and encourage their servants. It is a place that produces many fine fruits and physick herbs. The woods are stored with wild deer, conies, wolves, bears, raccoons, some beavers, and several other beasts which have fine furs, and fish and waterfowl for the killing. The timber are mostly oak of all sorts, walnut, chestnut, whereof there are great abundance where I have planted, though they be scarce so big as those that come to Scotland, yet large and pleasant strawberries grow very thick upon the ground amongst the trees, so that places of the woods are in summer as it were covered with a red cloth, as I am certainly informed. Fruit trees advance at a great rate in this place, for a man may have an orchard within a few years after the planting that will yield him a great quantity of Cyder, which is the chiefest of their drink in this province, even among the meanest of the Planters. So that this country, if well improved, will make a fine place. For nature has been deficient in nothing to it, either for pleasure or fruitfulness of the Soyl; so that a man being once settled two or three years in it, and having corn, cattle and all things necessary for the use of man within himself, and the trouble and hardship of his first settling by his hand, he may live as comfortably here as in any place in the world, providing he could dispense with the want of his friends and relations and the satisfaction of their company, which is the loss I most regret in this place."

#### THE GORDON FAMILY.

The family to which Thomas Gordon belonged were among those who sought America for liberty of conscience and quietness of life, which were denied them at home. Thomas, who settled at Plainfield, was the most eminent member of the family. They were likely sons of Sir George Gordon, "Knight Advocate." It is said that Thomas was personally known to King James III. and received various honors from him, although politically opposed to him. The hope which is expressed in Mr. Gordon's letter, that he and his family might continue in good health in their new home on Cedar Brook was not granted, for within two years after the settlement his wife and children had all died, Mrs. Gordon dying in December, 1687. A flagstone marks the spot where she and other members of the family are interred





Engr'd by H. & C. Koevoets, N.Y.

*A. Gilbert*





*A. C. Baldwin*



in St. Peter's Church in Perth Amboy, of which church Mr. Gordon was a prominent member and a strong supporter. In 1695 Mr. Gordon married Janet, daughter of David Mudie, a merchant of Amboy. She survived her husband, whose death occurred in 1722. A stone, properly inscribed,



UNION COUNTY COUNTRY CLUB

marks the place of his burial in Perth Amboy. He was a man much honored from the time of his settlement on Cedar Brook until the time of his death.

#### THE FULLERTONS.

Comparatively little is known of the career of the Fullertons. It is evident that they were men of more than usual intelligence and strength of character, and were greatly in love with their new home. Contrasted with climate in Scotland, where it usually rained or where the land was covered with a mist much wetter than ordinary rain, Thomas is said to have described the climate of Plainfield in these words: "The weather here is constantly clear. The sun rises and sets free of clouds."

We have before us an old map of the settled portion of East New Jersey as it appeared in the year 1682. Upon this map the homes of "Gordon, Fullerton, Forbes and others" appear on the south side of Cedar Brook, while the house of John Barclay, with the date 1684, appears upon the north side at the point of juncture between Cedar Brook and a smaller stream coming in from the east and south. The settlements noted on this map were made between 1682 and 1702. No highways appear in this immediate section. "The Minising Path" is marked as crossing the mountains to the north of Scotch Plains and the Rariton at the south of Perth Amboy, following along the low lands past Middletown to the Shrewsbury river, near where it enters the ocean. We conclude that this was the great Indian trail by which the various tribes reached the shellfish treasures in the Shrewsbury. There are two roads marked upon the map, the principal road to the south, or "Delaware river," and the lower road to Delaware river, which united near the Rariton, crossing that river at a point marked as Indians' ferry and grant. That trail seems to pass near where the old Stelton church now is, near Bonham Town, through Woodbride, across the Rahavack river, on to Elizabeth

Town, and thence to Newark. No other highways or trails appear upon the map.

An old map, dated from 1685, gives the names of certain planters occupying territory in this immediate vicinity. The plantation of R. Burnette and R. Gordon, comprising about three thousand acres, seems to have crossed Cedar Brook at or near the Martine place, extending southward and westward to Bound Brook, and eastward in an irregular shape to the region of Rahway. Adjoining this on the south was the plantation of I. Barclay, of 700 acres, on the north and west, reaching to and crossing Green Brook, and reaching to the Blew Hills was the plantation of P. Soumans, of 2,500 acres. This was joined by that of R. Fullerton, of three thousand acres, and this by G. and I. Alex [probably Alexander] of 462 acres. We judge that these three plantations reached to or beyond Scotch Plains. Adjoining this, and covering more or less of the territory now occupied by the city, was the plantation assigned to Locheill, bounded on the south by Bound Brook and on the north by the Blew Hills, and containing a thousand acres. Next in order, running from Bound Brook to the Hills, was that of William Dockwra. Going southward and westward from the point where Cedar Brook and Green Brook unite upon the map, we find a plantation of T. Rudyard, containing 1,170 acres, bounded by the Rariton river and reaching as far westward as the point of juncture between Bound Brook and Cedar Brook. Next adjoining, and resting upon the Rariton river, is the plantation of T. Codrington, containing 2,630 acres. Next, lying between the river and the mountains, is a plantation of 1,618 acres assigned to I. Grahame and S. Winder & Co. Between that and the north branch of the Rariton is marked a plantation of 931 acres belonging to I. Robinson; the remainder, a large tract lying between the Rariton and the north branch, the number of acres not stated, is assigned to Lord Neill Campbell. Returning in our search and passing toward Rahway, we find on the east side of the Rahway river a plantation of 2,500 acres, belonging to T. Rudyard. On the west side of the river, opposite the Rudyard plantation, is one belonging to T. Hart, of 2,000 acres. Next adjoining is one belonging to R. Townley, of 1,498 acres. Grouped together between the branches of the Rahway river, and, we presume, near the point where the village of Rahway now is, smaller plantations are marked, belonging to Robinson, Frazee, Emmett, Alexander, and one or two others, with an aggregate of about 1,800 acres. These seem to have been the points of settlement away from tide-water, known to the map-maker of that time.

The foregoing shows that the early settlers took up large tracts of land, and while a few houses were grouped somewhat near each other, as in the section of Green Brook, the plantations were usually so large that village and communal life did not increase rapidly. In that early time a mill for grinding corn and sawing logs was a permanent want and an equally prominent feature of increasing civilization. So far as we can learn, the first mill in New Jersey was built at Woodbridge in 1676 by Jonathan Dunham, and the second or third was erected on Green Brook, the original dam being practically identical with the one now known as Tiers', but which belongs to French's mill, now situated on Somerset street.



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER V.

### OLD LANDMARKS—THE SECOND QUAKER MEETING HOUSE—THE MARTINE PLACE.

The present city of Plainfield is not rich in the matter of old landmarks. The circumstances of its early settlement, and its connection with the Revolutionary War, were such that not many old landmarks remain. One link which



THE OLD LAING HOTEL.

connected the settlements at Plainfield with Woodbridge and Perth Amboy was a Quaker meeting-house. The Quakers were prominent in the settlements of Shrewsbury, Perth Amboy and Woodbridge. The first Quaker meeting-house in New Jersey was built at Woodbridge about 1713. In October, 1735, a Quaker meeting was established at the home of John Laing, to accommodate the Friends who dwelt near him and were unable to attend the services at the meeting-house in Woodbridge, because of the distance. John Laing had a large farm, and his house was located near the present fair grounds in the eastern part of the city. He died before 1728, bequeathing to the Friends a plot of ground on which to build a meeting-house. In 1731 the Woodbridge monthly meeting gave permission for its construction, stipulating that it should not exceed 24 feet square, and 14 feet "between joyns." It was built late in 1736, and in 1744 a "hors stable" was built adjoining it. A cemetery was also opened nearby, and this house was occupied until 1788, at which time the new house now situated near the station of the New Jersey Central Railroad, in the city, was built. The centennial of this latter house was celebrated in 1888, and it is still regularly occupied for public services. The writer has taken great pains to locate the site of the original house, since all material landmarks of it have been removed. It was on the edge of the level ground near the point where Woodland avenue crosses the old road which ran from Piscataway and Newmarket to Rahway. What is now Woodland avenue was then the old road leading past Oak Tree to Metuchen. On the right hand of this road, a little below the present point of crossing and nearly opposite the main entrance to the golf grounds, the old

Quaker church was located. A single landmark remains at this time—November, 1900—an old cherry tree, dead, large as to its trunk and with most of its branches yet remaining. We have consulted men now living who remember when the old burying-ground was still left unplowed, as late as 1850 or '60. It is most unfortunate that this cemetery was not preserved by permanent inclosure, and such definite arrangements as would continue in existence this connecting link of civilization and religion which united Plainfield with the earlier settlements upon the seashore. Our readers will take care not to confound this cemetery and the location of the meeting-house with another cemetery, known at the present time as "the Quaker burying-ground," which is farther east and nearer to the present village of South Plainfield. This is located upon the farm of Colonel Holly, near an ice-pond which lies between the home of Mr. Holly and the home of Mr. David Randolph. That was a neighborhood cemetery, and deserves the name of "Quaker" only because many people who were buried there belonged to the Society of Friends. In searching for the first-named old cemetery, the writer also learned of another, which was located in the heart of the present village of South Plainfield. This was also a neighborhood cemetery, in which many people belonging to the Baptists were buried. It, too, has disappeared during the present century, and a vegetable garden now covers the spot where the dust and bones of those ancient people rest.

### THE SECOND QUAKER MEETING-HOUSE.

The second Quaker meeting-house, which was dedicated in 1788, is yet occupied, and forms the most prominent landmark of the preceding century in the center of the city.



FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE (HICKSITE).

It is at the corner of North avenue and Peace street (Watchung avenue), and, together with the cemetery adjoining, with its modest headstones, the quaint inside arrangement of the house and its general appearance, challenges



ROWLAND COX.



COL. MASON W. TYLER.





WILLIAM WHITE.



ELIAS R. POPE.

the eye of the traveler and interests the investigator in many ways.

#### THE MARTINE PLACE.

Another landmark of more than passing interest is found in and about the place of James E. Martine, 1100 Watchung avenue. The house is approached by an avenue broadened with fine old trees, running along the bank of Cedar Brook. It was at this point that Thomas Gordon built his first cabin, the foundation of which is still easily traced near the point where Mr. Martine's barn stands. It is evident that the land around the creek, at this point, was a cedar swamp. Mr. Gordon built a stone "causeway" across to the hard land on the south. This causeway became a prominent landmark of the section, and all the early surveys in and about that part of Plainfield date from "a certain stone monument" at one end of that causeway. The foundations of the cause-



THE OLD HARBURGER HOUSE.

way are yet traceable. On another portion of the old Martine farm, the grounds now owned by William E. Lowe, was a large burying-ground for slaves, and within the last half of the century just closed this was well marked, and within the last few years an aged colored man who was familiar with the location pointed out the graves of his friends and the place which had been chosen for his own burial. Late in the eighteenth century the second house was built, which rose to the pretensions of a mansion in those Colonial times. It fronted to the south and east, and several rooms in the present house occupied by Mr. Martine belong to the old building, although extensive additions have been made since. During the earlier part of the nineteenth century David L.

Dodge, brother of William E. Dodge, and W. B. Kinney, who was Minister to France under President Pierce, occupied the place. The mother of the poet, Clarence Stedman, was a daughter of Mr. Dodge, and the boy Clarence resided in the Martine house until he was about nine years of age. He visited the place a year or two since and asked the privilege of visiting a small, dark closet under the stairs in the old front hall, to which a narrow door leads. His memory of this closet was emphasized by the following incident: On a given Sunday he reported, after Sunday school, that in giving his answer to that question in the catechism which inquires, "What is the chief end of man?" he had declared that it was "To get all the money you can and keep all you get." His grandfather, David Dodge, a devout Presbyterian, of the rigid type, not realizing how truthfully the young poet had prophesied concerning the days in which we live, felt that he deserved not only rebuke, but severe punishment. He was therefore incarcerated in this closet, and left in the darkness and dust to mourn over the folly of boys who so far forget the theological truths connected with the catechism as to answer in a way pertinent to a time like this. Wishing to refresh his memory, whether through a sense of repentance or not we cannot say, the aged poet, at his late visit, insisted on being shut into the closet again. After a time he came out, his heart hot with indignation at the memory of the injustice done to him by his devout but rigid grandparent. All in all, that point upon Cedar Brook, or Cedar Swamp, as it was sometimes called in the earlier history, furnishes many suggestions of ancient times, and constitutes one of the chief landmarks of the centuries which have now passed into history, and of the men and women who laid the foundations of Plainfield's history.

So far as we can learn, the Fullertons settled upon the place now occupied by John Taylor Johnson. It is also certain that the Vails, who were among the early settlers, had their home upon the grounds now occupied by Mr. Closson and Mr. Hyde on Front street. The foundation of their ancient buildings has been uncovered there within the last half-century. Upon the authority of Hugh D. Vail, writing from Santa Barbara, California, April 11, 1898, to the *Courier-News*, we learn that while possibly some portion of the kitchen of the Martine house, as it now exists, was built by William Webster, Jr., it is more probable that it was built by his son John, who was born upon the place in 1718 and died there in the year 1800. Mr. Vail believes that four generations of the Websters lived in the house. The Martines purchased the house from the father of William E. Dodge and still continue to occupy it.



CITY PARK



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER VI.

AN INTERMEDIATE HISTORIAN—EDUCATIONAL ITEMS—NEW LINE—CLOTH DRESSING—A LOOK FORWARD.

We have in hand a copy of the Plainfield Herald, Volume I, No. 6, dated October 22, 1835, published by Isaac Cole, at two dollars per annum. While this paper would not compare with the paper of to-day in all respects, it is creditable for the character of the matter printed, the nature of the advertisements and the general make-up of the paper. It contains an article under the head of "Statistics of Plainfield, New Jersey," from which we gather the following facts. According to this article, the first house built in Plainfield (by which we understand the village of Plainfield, for, as the reader has already seen, there were settlers at various points outside the village at a much earlier date) was in 1735, one hundred years before the date of the paper in question. At that time the population of the village was ten persons. Then follows a list of the growth of the village for one century, which we reproduce for the benefit of our readers:

Number of houses built and number of the inhabitants in different years: 1735, 1, 10; 1755, 1, 14; 1765, 3, 36; 1770, 1, 47; 1775, 1, 55; 1780, 3, 75; 1785, 1, 80; 1790, 5, 126; 1795, 3, 150; 1800, 1, 155; 1805, 7, 215; 1810, 18, 275; 1815, 12, 359; 1820, 11, 430; 1825, 8, 490; 1826, 3, 520; 1827, 5, 660; 1828, 5, 600; 1829, 9, 630; 1830, 4, 700; 1831, 6, 740; 1832, 3, 780; 1833, 12, 860; 1834, 9, 900; 1835, 5, 1,030, and about thirty will be finished during the year.

In 1835 there were 245 inhabitants between 20 and 30 years of age. There were 33 inhabitants between 50 and 60 years of age; there were six between 70 and 80, and two women between 80 and 90 years of age.

The manufacturing of hats and clothing was a prominent industry at that time, if not the most prominent. There were ten hat factories, turning out \$80,000 worth of hats annually, and six tailoring establishments, the price of labor in that line amounting to \$12,000 annually. There were six dry goods stores, with an aggregate capital of \$21,000, and one grocery store, with a capital of \$1,000. Six shoe shops were in operation, turning out \$6,800 worth of boots and shoes each year. One tanyard existed "with a stock of \$3,000." There was a fire insurance company with a capital of \$18,500, which had then issued policies to the amount of \$363. There were five places of public worship—one Baptist, one Presbyterian, one Methodist and two of the Friends. A half a mile from the village there was a "hat-body manufactory, making \$40,000 worth annually." The village then had three physicians and one lawyer.

### EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

In 1835 there were two private schools, which had been opened a little before. The Plainfield Seminary occupied a building 40 by 36 feet, employed three teachers, and gave instruction in English studies only. The Plainfield Classical Institute occupied a building 60 by 35 feet, employed five teachers, and claimed to furnish not only an "English education, but with a complete scientific, mathematical and collegiate course of instruction."

Building lots seem to have been placed on the market first in 1825. During the year 1835 real estate took "a considerable and permanent rise. The best lots in the village, 160 feet deep, were then worth twenty dollars per foot in front, and the land a quarter of a mile from the center of the place may be fairly valued at from \$220 to \$250 per acre."

The article before us suggests that the name Plainfield comes "from its natural location on a very level plain about eleven miles in length and two or three in breadth. On the north, about one and a quarter miles distant, runs a range of mountains, from three hundred to four hundred feet high, which not only beautify the scenery by affording a fine contrast to the plain below, but furnish a good supply of firewood, also timber and stone for building, and screen the country south of it from the north winds. This mountain, there is every probability of believing, contains copper to no small amount. Immediately back of the village is the site of an old copper mine, worked previously to the Revolution, and which would no doubt still yield copper if worked to the necessary extent."

From the same source we learn that in 1835 there was great lack of carpenters and masons and of day laborers who were temperate and industrious. A cooper also was especially desired for the village. It was estimated that there were then three hundred houses in the village. The first house, built in 1735, is described as follows:

"The middle part of the house where John Wilson, Esq., now lives was the first frame house built in Plainfield, and this was put up in 1735, at which time there were none but log houses and Indian wigwams around. The land on the place was covered with live-oaks about seven or eight feet high, and ox-carts were the only style of carriages in use. Between 1735-40 an addition was made to the first frame house above mentioned. About the year 1750-54 the live-oaks began to be destroyed, waggons came in vogue and the Indians were nearly all gone. Other frame houses were built, at longer or shorter intervals, afterward, some of which were torn down or removed, and such as remained are easily designated by the position in which they stand, with one end pointing to the rising and the other to the setting sun; our worthy ancestors not having seen fit to adopt the modern system of building their dwellings parallel to the street, but chose to place their domiciles with some regard to the ancient track of the sun, rather than to that of the ever-deviating one of carts and coaches."

Concerning gristmills, we are informed that "between 1750 and 1760 the first gristmill was built by John Webster, on the banks of the upper large mill-pond [Tiers']. It was moved, however, in the year 1790 down to the spot where it now stands [the mill of Sheppard & Steele] and the place named Mill-town. The lower gristmill was built in 1764 [the old Randolph mill]. About the year 1750, previous to there being any store in Plainfield, there was a cluster of five or



CHARLES HYDE.



EDWARD CAMPBELL MULFORD





DAVID J. BOICE.



JOHN D. RUNYON.

From a painting by W. H. Griffin, made from an amateur photograph, assisted by memory.

six houses and one store about a mile from the village, near the foot of the mountain, on a lot of land now owned by John Edgar, called Browse-town."

The progress of civilization is further noted by the writer in 1835, who declares that Dutch collars for horses, and rope lines and traces, were used on all occasions to drive to

customers, as we have an opportunity of receiving them every day, and returning them as soon as finished.

"Oct. 7, 1835.

VREELAND & WILLIAMS."

The educational institutions spoken of are advertised prominently in the issue before us, the Plainfield Classical Seminary having a very fair cut of its buildings and surroundings. Judging from the advertisement, not many ladies attended the institution, for after giving a long list of advanced studies, including "construction of maps and the use of Globes, Rhetoric, Logic, the French, Latin, Greek and Hebrew languages, Ancient and Modern History, Natural Theology, Philosophy, moral, intellectual and Political," it was further stated that "Young ladies are also instructed in the solid branches of an education. The terms are from \$15 to \$20 per session of 24 weeks." We are further informed in this advertisement that "Board may be obtained in respectable private families at from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per week—exclusive of washing. The trustees of the Institution use every exertion to make it rank with the best literary and scientific Seminaries of the day. The teachers are men of talents & experience, and are believed to be fully capable of instructing their pupils well, & of governing them with the skill and judgment of conscientious and affectionate disciplinarians."

By some system of mind-reading, possibly, the writer of the advertisement looked into the future far enough to see Superintendent Maxson with his corps of teachers and the superior advantages of the present year, for the advertisement closes with this paragraph:

"We anticipate the day when Plainfield will become extensively and justly noted as a place of education; and we would encourage every laudable effort for that purpose, and make known as widely as possible to parents and Guardians the advantages of our Village and its schools."

Among the living questions which were discussed at that time was the question of slavery. Under the head of "Domestic News," we find notice of a public meeting held at Utica, New York, on the 8th of October, in the year 1835, which a large number of "our most respectable citizens



CENTRAL AVENUE AND EIGHTH STREET.

market, mill or church. He also states that "a school-house was first built about the year 1760, and about the year 1782 the Friends' old meeting-house was erected. This was the first place of public worship built in Plainfield. In 1734 red clover was introduced and first cultivated."

Some of the advertisements in this paper of 1835 would appear somewhat curious in the office of a modern advertising company. A single one is transferred to these pages, since it indicates the growth of business, and the very rapid transit which had been established at that time in connection with the city of New York. Immediately under the headline of the advertisement is a fairly well printed cut of an old-fashioned stage coach, with four horses, and a fine whip cracking over the ears of the leaders. The advertisement reads as follows:

#### "NEW LINE.

"The subscriber continues to run his Stage from Plainfield to Elizabeth-Town Point, leaving his Public house in Plainfield at 5 o'clock A. M. (every morning, Sundays excepted), and will leave the Point at 5 P. M.—This will give persons 5 hours to do business in New-York.

"He will drive his own Stage, or when he may not, he will employ a trusty person, for whom he will be accountable, and will attend to any business in New-York for a moderate compensation.

"VINCENT BARKLEW.

"Sept. 17."

Another advertisement relating to an important branch of business is as follows:

#### "CLOTH DRESSING.

"The subscribers having their establishment in first-rate order, with experienced workmen, are now ready to receive cloths to be dressed and colored blue, black, brown, green, etc., and in the best manner, and as soon as possible. They have made arrangements with Robert J. Randolph in Plainfield, Mahlon Smalley of Mount Bethel, and William D. Cole, near the Plainfield Factory, to receive and deliver cloth to



STELLE AVENUE (EAST FROM PLAINFIELD AVENUE).

attended and voted in favor of certain moderate resolutions touching the abolition of slavery." The Richmond Inquirer of about that time is quoted, in connection with the account of the meeting at Utica, as follows: "Hartford was stigmatized for being the headquarters of the execrable convention that assembled in 1814—will Utica consent to be de-



graded into the headquarters of the Abolitionists who are, in 1835, madly striking at the rights of the South and integrity of the Union? We pray them arouse and clear their skirts of the damning disgrace."

The same column of domestic news contains other long extracts discussing various phases of the slavery question and of the excitement concerning abolition movements, which was not a small factor in the history of the United States at that time. Another indication of the character of the discussion is found in an adjoining column, in which it is said that "Bishops Heading and Emery, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, have recently addressed a pastoral letter to the New Hampshire and New England conferences, exhorting their preachers and members to have nothing to do with the Abolition Society and its lecturers, and to refuse them the use of their pulpits and houses."

These glimpses, drawn from the first periodical published in the city of Plainfield, will indicate the great changes which have occurred since 1835.

In another column of the same paper we find an article "From the American Railroad Journal" which opens by declaring that "The construction of railroads is becoming a subject of great importance to the citizens of these United States, but to none more so than to the citizens of this city." The article goes on at length to note the progress in railroad making, and to declare that the general experience up to 1835 gave ground for believing that the building of railroads in the United States, if carried on with care and economy, would become a valuable element, and that such roads would be productive of fair returns. The article shows that there was yet much opposition to railroads, and many prophecies that they would injure the country in many ways, and that they would never pay for the cost of building. The character and extent of the railroad enterprises of the present day compels one to smile while reading such a discussion.

#### A LOOK FORWARD.

The unity of history makes it prophetic as well as retrospective. What Plainfield has been will have much to do with what Plainfield is to be. It is well, therefore, to suggest that, since the future is, in a great degree, the product of the past, it behooves the citizens of Plainfield to consider that past, carefully seeking to know how the future can be made still better. There is much to be commended in the present situation, both as to the character of the people and the institutions which have been developed; but in history, as elsewhere, the price of success depends upon constant vigilance, careful study of the situation, and frequent introduction of new, uplifting and strengthening elements. To maintain the character of Plainfield at its present high

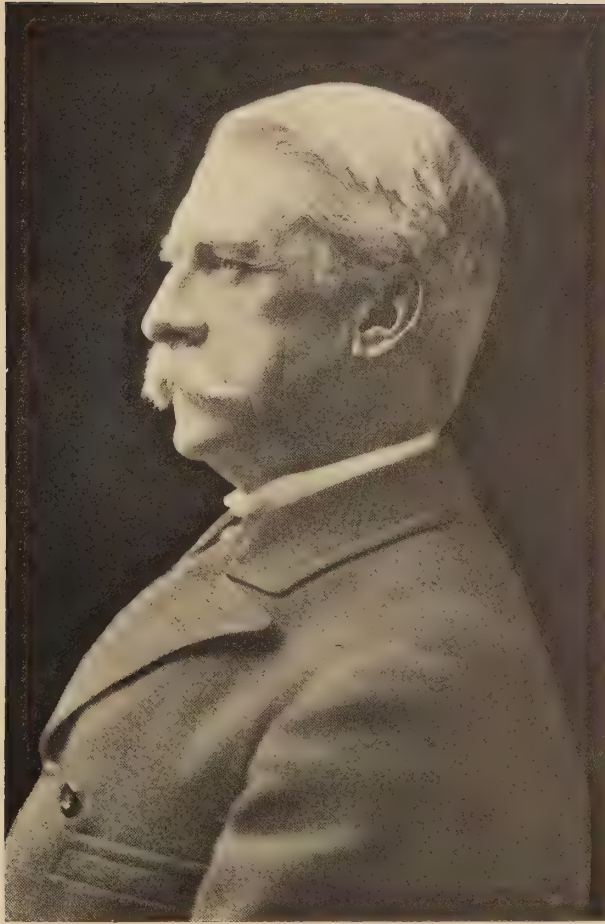
standard, and to raise that standard still higher, those who guide its interests must watch sharply against tendencies to lower standards of excellence and of attainments. Foremost among the sustaining and uplifting influences are the religious and educational institutions of the city. Whenever these are permitted to grow weak, or to be pushed into the background for sake of commercial and material interests, everything good must suffer. If, still more unfortunately, those influences which are directly inimical to the public good are allowed to increase, deterioration hastens accordingly.

Honesty and uprightness in commercial matters, honesty and purity in municipal matters, wise legislation, and a just execution of laws wisely made, are points concerning which greatest care must be taken. All citizens are interested in these general results, and each citizen must bear a part of the responsibility for success or failure. He who neglects his duties as a citizen in matters pertaining to municipal affairs and the general moral and intellectual standards of thought and action is recreant to a high trust.

These things are said as a student of history, and the writer would be untrue to the task he has undertaken to say less in this connection. The laws which will govern the future history of the city of Plainfield are imperative, and the results which will come from neglect or from a careful consideration of these duties on the part of the citizens are unavoidable. As was said in the opening chapter of this history, nothing happens. Causes and results are imperatively at work in all history. Individuals and cities write their history in their purposes and actions, and no combination of influences outside themselves can secure results other than those produced by these choices and actions. As the past of Plainfield was fashioned by men now dead, its future rests with those now living, and with the influences which they leave to their children. The men and women who read these pages will do much to determine the future history of Plainfield for the rest of this century. It has been a pleasant task to recount the history of Plainfield thus far, when seen from the higher standpoint of citizenship and things pertaining to righteousness. If the readers of these pages shall be true to their highest trusts, we venture to prophesy that he who writes the history of Plainfield at the opening of the next century will find little or nothing to record that will not be in keeping with the highest and best traditions of the century which has just closed. We extend to that historian the hand-grasp that binds the centuries together, with the hope that he will not be compelled to record anything which will indicate that influences making for good and righteousness will not have the ascendancy for a century to come.



HILLSIDE CEMETERY.



LEANDER NEWTON LOVELL.



REV. THOMAS LOGAN MURPHY.





REV. ABRAHAM HERBERT LEWIS.



WALTER SCOTT.

# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER VII.

### PLAINFIELD OF TO-DAY—THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

As a city, Plainfield has existed about thirty-one years. It then had less than five thousand inhabitants. According to the United States census in 1890, the population was 11,267. The last census (1900) gave the city 15,369, which, with the population of the borough of North Plainfield (5,009), separated only by a small brook, although located in Somerset county, swells the population to nearly 21,000 inhabitants.

In the nature of things, because of its location, the city must continue to grow and prosper in the decade to come in proportions greater than ever before. In schools, churches, public institutions and business enterprises, Plainfield manifests perhaps as many evidences of progress as any city of similar size in the country. Its excellent railway service to the metropolis, an adequate and satisfactory water supply, good telephone and telegraph service, unexcelled trolley car conveniences, safe local banking facilities and a well-equipped police and fire department, all of which will be referred to more in detail.

Besides its well-attended public schools, including a high school, Plainfield's educational spirit is manifested in several high-class private institutions.

There are twenty-six churches, all denominations represented, which are referred to more fully hereafter.

The city government and the corporate and business enterprises of Plainfield; its citizens who lead in trade, and commerce, and the professions, are all treated of in detail in the pages which follow.

#### THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

A meeting of the citizens of Plainfield township was held in Laing's hall, April 20, 1869, for the purpose of forming a city government for Plainfield. The act of incorporation, entitled, "An Act to Incorporate the City of Plainfield," approved April 6, 1869, was read and accepted.

The township election for the purposes of incorporation was held on April 13, 1869. The township committee at this time was Wallace Vail, T. J. Gillies, Randolph Runyon, Job Male and C. O. Meeker.

Six hundred and eighty-three votes were polled, of which number 427 were in favor of incorporation and 256 against it. The election was declared duly carried.

The first charter election was held on May 4, 1869, at which 644 votes were cast. The judges of the election were William H. Williams, H. Williams, Isaac Dunham and Levi Hetfield, Jr. The act of incorporation provided for a board of three aldermen to act in conjunction with the mayor and common council. At the first city election held, the following officials were declared elected:

Mayor, Job Male; city clerk, Nelson Runyon; assessor, J. A. Hubbard; collector, Henry A. H. Martin; treasurer, C. Pense.

Aldermen—John Harris, Peter Morse, John A. Staats.

Common council—Enos W. Runyon, president; Evan

Jones, William C. Ayers, Clark Rogers, Robert O. Edwards, William McD. Coriell, John Simpson, John B. Brown, Edward P. Sawyer, Joseph W. Yates, Nicholas W. West.

The above officers were sworn in on May 6, 1869, and the first meeting of the common council was held May 11 of the same year, in old No. 2 engine house, which at that time was located on West Front street.

The following is a list of city officers who have been elected and have served in their various capacities since 1869:

1870.—Mayor, Job Male; city clerk, Nelson Runyon; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Henry A. H. Martin; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; aldermen, Peter Morse, Warren Green, John Harris. Common council: Evan Jones, E. W. Runyon, William McD. Coriell, R. K. Case, A. F. Campbell, J. C. Sutphen, Nathan Harper, J. W. Yates, John Simpson, J. B. Brown, D. J. Marshall. J. B. Coward was elected July 20, 1870, to fill the vacancy of A. F. Campbell, who resigned, and John W. Murray in place of J. W. Yates, resigned.

1871.—Mayor, John H. Evans; city clerk, Nelson Runyon; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, H. A. H. Martin; treasurer, C. Pense. Common council: J. H. Ackerman, president; Seer Hetfield, D. J. Borci, E. M. Daniel, D. J. Marshall, Clark Rogers, John G. Voorhees, John Allen, John B. Brown, L. S. Compton, John Simpson. Alexander Gilbert, elected July 2, 1871, in place of L. S. Compton, resigned.

1872.—Mayor, John H. Evans; city judge, George P. Suydam; city clerk, Nelson Runyon; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Henry A. H. Martin; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle. Common council: Alex. Gilbert, president; R. K. Case, Oliver Runyon, J. H. Ackerman, J. D. Spicer, George T. Young, Clark Rogers, John Allen, S. A. Smith, William McD. Coriell, Nathan Harper.

1873.—Mayor, Charles H. Stillman; city judge, George P. Suydam; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Henry A. H. Martin; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; city clerk, Nelson Runyon. Common council: Edmund V. Shotwell, president; Oliver Runyon, Nathan Harper, L. S. Compton, S. Alpheus Smith, George T. Young, James E. Martine, Mason W. Tyler, John B. Dumont, John J. Perrine, Charles W. Opdyke. Isaac S. Miller was elected in place of J. J. Perrine, resigned.

1874.—Mayor, Charles Stillman; city judge, J. Harvey Ackerman; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Henry A. H. Martin; city clerk, Nelson Runyon. Common council: Nathan Harper, president; Mason W. Tyler, J. J. Perrine, J. B. Dumont, C. W. Opdyke, Isaac L. Miller, George T. Young, Oliver Runyon, Nathan Rogers, Morgan Bird, E. V. Shotwell.

1875.—Mayor, John C. Sutphen; city judge, Peter P. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, Nelson



- Runyon. Common council: S. A. Smith, president; John B. Brown, John Simpson, John G. Voorhees, James Parker, John H. Tice, Levi Hetfield, William McD. Coriell, J. G. Gilligan, I. W. Rushmore, J. H. French.
- 1876.—Mayor, John C. Sutphen, city judge, Peter P. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, Nelson Runyon. Common council: S. Alpheus Smith, president; John B. Brown, William H. Voorhees, John H. French, Edward C. Mulford, Charles A. Hunter, Martin M. Thorn, John H. Tier, John Simpson, Stephen C. Ryder, John Harris.
- 1877.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, Peter P. Gord, treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, Nelson Runyon. Common council: J. Evarts Tracy, president; Augustus Pettibone, Edward C. Mulford, Charles Potter, Jr., Jared K. Myers, S. Alpheus Smith, John Harris, John J. Demarest, George T. Young, Edward L. Morris, John M. Whiton.
- 1878.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, Peter P. Gord, treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, William B. Smith. Common council: S. Alpheus Smith, president; Solomon C. Baker, Frederick W. Knowland, John B. Brown, Robert Simpson, John Simpson, Augustus Pettibone, John Cameron, Edward L. Morris, Charles Potter, Jr., Daniel J. Marshall.
- 1879.—Mayor, Nathan Harper; city judge, Peter P. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, William B. Smith. Common council: W. Rockhill Potts, president; William McD. Coriell, Isaac W. Rushmore, Henry Redfield, Gifford Mayer, Ephraim H. Depew, Edward L. Finch, Washington Lithgore, John Simpson, William B. Stewart, R. M. Stover.
- 1880.—Mayor, Nathan Harper; city judge, Nelson Runyon; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, O. P. Leonard. Common council: W. Rockhill Potts, president; Washington Lithgore, William McD. Coriell, Isaac W. Rushmore, Henry Redfield, Edward L. Finch, John M. Whiton, William S. Darling, Abram B. Dunlap, Charles E. Ryder, William Flanders.
- 1881.—Mayor, L. V. F. Randolph; city judge, Nelson Runyon, treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Louis E. Clark; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: John M. Whiton, president; William Flanders (died March 2, 1881); Alexander Gilbert elected to fill vacancy; Washington Lithgow, elected by council January 29, 1881, afterwards resigned; E. L. French elected to fill vacancy; William McD. Coriell, Theodore B. Hamilton, Henry Smith, M. W. Tyler, William S. Darling, Charles S. Guion, Andrew H. Smith, Charles Tweedy, O. T. Waring.
- 1882.—Mayor, L. V. F. Randolph; city judge, Nelson Runyon; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, John B. Brown; collector, Joseph A. Hubbard; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: Ephraim H. Depew, president; Isaac W. Rushmore, Henry B. Newhall; William B. Clarkson, refused to serve, John Simpson elected to fill vacancy; Henry Lindsley, Stephen A. Giunna, Robert L. Livingston, William Thompson, William T. Haufman, Robert Simpson, William E. Gardner.
- 1883.—Mayor, William B. Maxson; city judge, Peter P. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Walter L. Hetfield. Common Council: B. Frank Coriell, president; Lemuel W. Sewell, Jeremiah Manning, John Simpson, Tell A. Beguelin, John Ross, Karl T. Polak, Evan Jones, F. E. Marsh, Robert Simpson, William E. Gardner, Robert L. Livingston.
- 1884.—Mayor, William B. Maxson; city judge, Peter P. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: B. Frank Coriell, president; Robert L. Livingston, Charles D. Wadsworth, John Simpson, Tell A. Beguelin, John Ross, John B. Dumont, Francis E. Marsh, Charles S. West, William E. Gardner, Andrew Love, Sr.
- 1885.—Mayor, George W. Rockfellow; city judge, Peter B. Gord; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: B. Frank Coriell, president; Tell A. Beguelin, C. M. Goddard, Charles S. West, A. A. Gallup, Robert S. Livingston, Charles D. Wadsworth, John Simpson, Sr., John B. Dumont, Francis E. Marsh, Andrew Love.
- 1886.—Mayor, George W. Rockfellow; city judge, John Ulrich; treasurer, Jeremiah Van Winkle; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Richard Muritt. Common council: Tell A. Beguelin, president; John H. Cuthbert, Rowland Cox, Benjamin A. Bowers, C. M. Goddard, A. T. Gallup, John Simpson, John B. Dumont, Francis E. Marsh, Marvin M. Dunham, William H. Voorhees.
- 1887.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, John Ulrich; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: Francis E. Marsh, president; Samuel P. T. Wilbur, William Taylor, M. M. Duncan, Tunis J. Carey, Benjamin O. Bowers, Roland Cox, John B. Dumont, John H. Cuthbert, William H. Voorhees, John Simpson.
- 1888.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, John Ulrich; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: Francis E. Marsh, president; John B. Dumont, Eric N. Erickson, H. C. Squires, George W. Watson, Wilton Randolph, Elmore D. Moffett, Tunis J. Carey, Marvin M. Dunham, William Taylor, Samuel P. T. Wilbur.
- 1889.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, George P. Suydam; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, O. B. Leonard. Common council: John B. Dumont, president; Oliver S. Jenkins, Henry B. Newhall, J. K. Myers, M. M. Dunham, A. T. Gallup, Eric N. Erickson, Elmore D. Moffett, H. C. Squires, Francis E. Marsh, George W. Watson.
- 1890.—Mayor, Job Male; city judge, William R. Codington (unexpired term); treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, J. B. Coward. Common council: Elmore D. Moffett, president; Walter L. Hetfield, Leonard Spangenberg, Townsend Rushmore, M. M. Dunham, A. T. Gallup, Daniel S. Roberts, Olin L. Jenkins, Henry B. Newhall, Seymour G. Smith, John Johnson.
- 1891.—Mayor, Alexander Gilbert; city judge, William R. Codington; treasurer, Alex. Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Joseph B. Coward. Common council: Sevmour G. Smith, president; William G. E. See, Stephen A. Guinna, Ernest R. Ackerman, A. T. Gallup, Walter S. Hetfield, John Johnson, Elmore D. Moffett, Daniel S. Roberts, Townsend Rushmore, Leonard Spangenberg.
- 1892.—Mayor, Alexander Gilbert; city judge, William R.



WILLIAM McDOWELL CORIELL.



BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CORIELL.



FRANK W. RUNYON.





ROGER F. MURRAY.

- Codington; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Frank W. Runyon. Common council: Stephen A. Guinna, president; Rufus K. Case, Eric N. Erickson, Herman A. Weber, Elias H. Bird, John Johnson, Francis E. Marsh, Vincent L. Frazee, A. T. Gallup, Ernest R. Ackerman, William G. E. See.
- 1893.—Mayor, Alexander Gilbert; city judge, William R. Codington; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Frank W. Runyon. Common council: Stephen A. Guinna, president; William G. E. See; Charles J. Fisk, Benjamin F. Millington, Rufus K. Case, Herman A. Weber, Francis E. Marsh, John Johnson, Elias H. Bird, Vincent L. Frazee, Eric N. Erickson.
- 1894.—Mayor, Alexander, Gilbert; city judge, William A. Coddington; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, J. T. MacMurray. Common council: William G. E. See, president; Stephen A. Guinna, Vincent L. Frazee, Eric N. Erickson, John B. Dumont, William A. Westphal, Benjamin F. Millington, Harry M. Stockton, Elias H. Bird, Charles J. Fisk, George H. Frost.
- 1895.—Mayor, Alexander Gilbert; city judge, William A. Coddington; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: William G. E. See, president; Stephen A. Guinna, J. B. Dumont, E. N. Erickson, Vincent L. Frazee, William A. Westphal, Elias H. Bird, Charles J. Fisk, Harry M. Stockton, George H. Frost.
- 1896.—Mayor, Alexander Gilbert; city judge, George W. De Meza; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, John Johnson; city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: William G. E. See, president; John B. Dumont, Albert C. Stebbins, Harold Serrell, Elliott T. Barrows, George H. Frost, Ralph I. Tolles, William A. Westphal, Charles J. Fisk, Stephen A. Guinna, William H. Moore.
- 1897.—Mayor, Charles J. Fisk; city judge, George W. De Meza; treasurer, Alexander Titsworth and William F. Arnold; assessor, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Elias H. Bird; city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: John B. Dumont, president; Charles J. Newman, William N. Runyon, William A. Westphal, Elliott T. Barrows, Ralph I. Tolles, George H. Frost, Albert C. Stebbins, Alfred H. Sievers, Harold Serrell, John T. Baker.
- 1898.—Mayor, Charles J. Fisk; city judges, G. W. De Meza, died May 17, 1898; William Stillman, appointed to fill unexpired term; treasurer, William F. Arnold; assessors, H. C. Van Emburgh, H. C. Runyon, C. H. Hand and Joseph A. Hubbard; collectors, Elias H. Bird and J. A. Martin; city clerk, J. T. MacMurray. Common council: John T. Baker, president; Frederick H. Andrews, Elliott T. Barrows, James F. Buckle, James P. Homan, Walter L. Hetfield, Henry Siefke, Elmore D. Moffett, Charles J. Newman, William N. Runyon, John Van Herwerden.
- 1899.—Mayor, Geo. W. Rockfellow; city judge, William N. Runyon; treasurer, William F. Arnold; assessors, H. C. Van Emburgh, H. C. Runyon, C. H. Hand, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, J. A. Martin; city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: F. H. Andrews, president; George P. Mellick, Walter S. Hetfield, John Van Herwerden, Elliot T. Barrows, Ralph I. Tolles, James F. Buckle, James P. Homan, B. Frank Corriell, Henry Siefke, Frank H. Smith.
- 1900.—Mayor, George W. Rockfellow; city judge, William N. Runyon; treasurer, William F. Arnold; assessors, H. C. Van Emburgh, H. C. Runyon, C. H. Hand, Joseph A. Hubbard; collectors, J. A. Martin (resigned), Frank H. Smith (elected to fill vacancy); city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: Frank H. Smith, president (resigned); J. B. Dumont (elected to fill vacancy), Frank D. Randolph, William L. Gloak, James F. Buckle, James Craig, George P. Mellick, B. Frank Corriell, John Van Herwerden, Robert L. Lee, Ralph I. Tolles, Charles B. Clifton.
- 1901.—Mayor, Olin L. Jenkins; city judge, William N. Runyon; treasurer, William F. Arnold; assessors, H. C. Van Emburgh, H. C. Runyon, C. H. Hand, Joseph A. Hubbard; collector, Frank H. Smith; city clerk, Joseph T. MacMurray. Common council: J. B. Dumont, president; Frank D. Randolph, William L. Gloak, James F. Buckle, James Craig, George P. Mellick, B. Frank Corriell, John Van Herwerden, Robert L. Lee, Ralph I. Tolles, Charles B. Clifton.

The following appointive offices have been filed by the Common Council from 1869 to 1901 inclusive:

Corporation counsel: 1869-70, Enos W. Runyon; 1871, John H. Van Winkle; 1872-3, Joseph B. Coward; 1874, George P. Suydam; 1875-6, William B. Maxson; 1877-8-9-80, George P. Suydam; 1881-2, Charles W. Kimball; 1882-1901, Craig A. Marsh.

City physician: 1870-73, John C. Sutphen; 1874, F. B. Gillett; 1874, H. D. Burlingham; 1875-6, F. B. Gillette; 1877, William C. Boone; 1878, Charles F. Stillman; 1879-82, Henry H. Lowrie; 1883-4, John T. Fritts; 1885-6, William C. Boone; 1887-90-91, Archer Mannering; 1892, J. A. Allis; 1893-97, M. S. Simpson; 1899-1901, John H. Cannon.

Street commissioners: 1869, Samuel T. Varain; 1870, George W. F. Randolph; 1871-8, John Wilson; 1879-80, George M. Angleman; 1881, William Hand; 1882-3, John C. Meeker; 1884-89, George M. Angleman; 1890-96, Robert A. Meeker; 1897-1901, Andrew J. Gavett.



# History of Plainfield

*"No pains are spared in Europe to educate princes and nobles who are to govern; no expense is counted too great to prepare the governing classes for their function. America has her governing class, too, and that governing class is the whole people."*—HENRY WARD BEECHER.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS—PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

Plainfield was, with one exception, the first township in the State to recognize that the princes of the future are the children of to-day, and that it is the highest wisdom to make education free for all, rich and poor alike. Years before the State law was passed that made free education universal in New Jersey, Plainfield taxed itself to build a house in which the rudiments of an education should be furnished to all its children free of charge. Twenty years



PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

later, when there were no free high schools in the State, except in one or two of the large cities, Plainfield established a high school, in which its children might also get a higher education without charge. No one can measure the effect of this enlightened policy in extending the fame of the city and in building up its prosperity. No other single feature has contributed so much to increase its population, rent its houses and create an enlightened public spirit; and each year adds to the families drawn here by the fame of our schools.

The founder, and for many years the most ardent worker in this movement, was Dr. Charles H. Stillman. When Plainfield was first organized as a township, in 1847, Dr. Stillman was elected town superintendent of public schools, and from that time until his death, in 1881, he was constantly in the service of the city in its educational affairs; for years as its superintendent, then as trustee, and for thirteen years as President of the Board of Education. Of the eight important measures passed by the Legislature in behalf of the Plainfield school system, six were written by him, and through these enactments the Plainfield board was given power that enabled it to develop a strong school, so much in advance of the other townships. Dr. Stillman's devotion to the public school interests and his labors in its behalf

justly entitle him to be called the father of the Plainfield public schools.

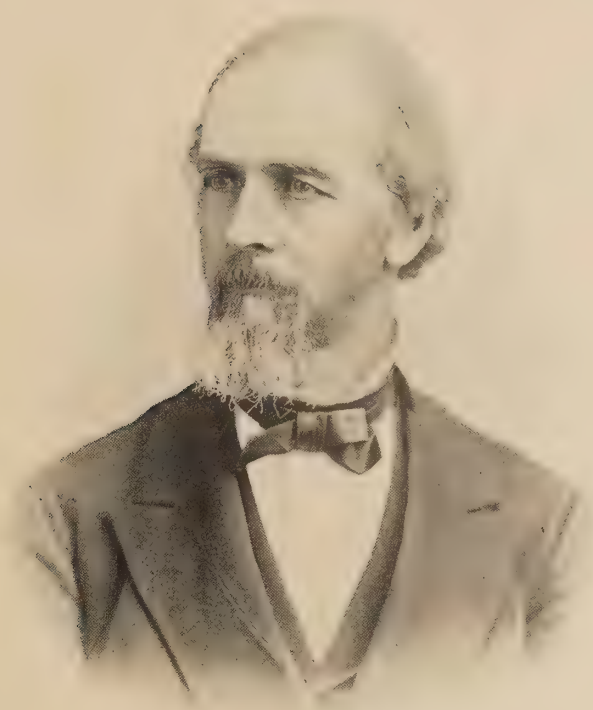
The city school system practically came into existence on the sixteenth day of August, 1847, when two schools were opened by the trustees, one in a hatter's shop on West Front street, a little west of Grove street; the other in a cabinetmaker's shop at the corner of East Front street and Watchung avenue. The first step toward this was taken at "a meeting of the inhabitants of school districts, formerly No. 889 in the township of Plainfield," which was held in Abram Laing's tavern on Monday, May 24, 1847, at which meeting it was resolved "That the trustees be requested to provide two suitable places for public schools, and employ suitable teachers for such schools, and that they make arrangements to keep them open during the year." Plainfield had but recently been set off from the Westfield township, and at the first township election, April 5, 1847, Dr. Charles H. Stillman was elected town superintendent of public schools. Almost his first act was to consolidate into one the two schools then existing in the village, and the inhabitants, at the meeting in Laing's tavern, voted that this district should be designated District No. 1, which has remained the official designation of the Plainfield schools ever since.

Up to 1847 the education of the children in Plainfield, as elsewhere in the State, had been cared for by private schools, which seem, however, to have had a very uncertain existence. The first of these of which we have record was opened about the year 1760. Another flourished at the corner of Front



WASHINGTON SCHOOL.

street and Peace street (Watchung avenue) about the year 1800. About a decade later, June 4, 1811, the Plainfield School Society was organized, with John Wilson, Samuel Manning, John Manning, Benj. Laing and Frederick Vermeule as trustees. With funds subscribed by the citizens, a building was erected on West Front street, where John Leal's school now stands, and here, for nearly a quarter of a century, the Plainfield youth were educated. Among the



CHARLES H. STILLMAN, M.D.





WILLIAM STILLMAN.



FRED. C. LOUNSBURY.



ANDREW J. GAVITT.

teachers of this time were Joseph F. Randolph, William Marsh, Pierrepont Potter, Ruth P. Cook, Peter F. Runyon and Bulkley C. Morse. This school was closed in 1835 in consequence of a fire, which burned the upper part of the building. The building itself was remodeled and moved across the street, where it now stands as a dwelling-house near the First Baptist church. The closing of this school did not, however, deprive the children of a chance to go to school, for about this time (1833) a "Classical Academy" was built on the lot next to the Presbyterian church on East Front street. It seems to have been more or less under Presbyterian patronage, its classes having recited in the basement of the church for a number of years before its own building was erected. The school continued for a decade or more under the names, successively, of "Plainfield Seminary," "Greenbrook Family School" and "Plainfield Female Institute." The opening of the Plainfield Seminary under Presbyterian influence was soon followed by the opening of the Plainfield Classical Institute under Baptist patronage, at the corner of West Front street and Central avenue. But there was not enough patronage to support the schools, and they were both closed some ten years later, the seminary becoming the residence of Cornelius Boice, and the institute being divided and converted into two dwellings which now stand in the rear of Manning's Granite Works at the corner of West Front street and Central avenue. There were also, from time to time, various small home schools taught in private dwellings. In all these schools tuition was charged and the school money coming to the town from the State, which was a very small sum, was assigned to some school by the trustees to pay for the tuition of indigent children.

Such was the condition of education in the village when the

Freeman the Second Presbyterian, John Harris the Methodist, Jesse Vail the Quaker, and Zachariah Webster the Friends' Meeting.

This method of constituting the board seems to have been not entirely satisfactory, for at the next annual election the number of trustees was increased to ten, and the names of Caleb Freeman and John Harris disappear from the list, the board that erected the first building being: Zachariah Webster, Jacob Manning, Robert Anderson, William Sutton, William Dunn, Jesse Vail, David Coddington, Henry A. H. Martin, Joel Dunn and William P. Williamson.

When the first board of trustees of the new township of Plainfield entered upon their duties in 1847 they found that the new law made it impossible to assign the public money to a private school, as had been the custom. They therefore appointed a committee to confer with the teachers who then



FRANKLIN SCHOOL.



IRVING SCHOOL.

new township was created in 1847. Dr. Stillman, the new school superintendent, appreciating the situation, formed one consolidated district out of the two then existing in the village, and called a meeting of the inhabitants. At this first meeting the progressive spirit of the people was shown by their passing a resolution to appeal to the Legislature for a repeal of the law which prevented them from raising for their schools more than twice the amount they received from the State.

An interesting fact about the board of trustees elected at this meeting, the first board in our school history, is that the number was fixed at eight, the number of churches then in the village, and then a trustee was chosen from each church, William P. Williamson representing the First Baptist, William Sutton the Second Baptist, William Dunn the Seventh-Day Baptist, Robert Anderson the First Presbyterian, Caleb

had schools in town and to arrange to make them public schools, but the proposals of the trustees "were unceremoniously rejected." It was also impossible to find a building suitable for school use, and finally, in the absence of more suitable rooms, they established schools in two shops as described above. An interesting item in the school records of this time is that "Messrs. Lenox and Nuning offered to take the two schools at \$26 each per month, and find firewood, pens and ink." The schools opened with an enrollment of 167, and had an average attendance of 128 for the first quarter, but the public funds were found to be insufficient, since the State furnished only a very small sum, and the town could legally raise only twice that amount additional. An assessment of one dollar per quarter was therefore made upon those able and willing to pay this sum; hence the school was not strictly a free school. At the end of the second quarter it became impossible to retain longer even these inadequate rooms, and the trustees called a district meeting and submitted the situation to the voters, urging that a building should be erected, capable of accommodating all the children of the village in its two stories and basement.

This meeting adopted the following resolution: "That application be made to the Legislature, now in session, for an act empowering the inhabitants of Plainfield District No. 1 to raise money by tax for the erection of a schoolhouse and for the support of public schools in said district, the amount to be determined at the annual town meeting."

This resolution received the nearly unanimous approval of the meeting, and petitions were at once circulated and after being unanimously signed were forwarded to the Legislature, where they were presented in the House by the Hon. Elston



Marsh, a member from Plainfield, and pushed by him so successfully that the desired bill was passed, and Governor Daniel Haines affixed his signature to it on Thursday, March 8, 1848. While some of the privileges incorporated in the proposed law, as first presented, were stricken out by the Senate, the main point was gained, the power to raise money by taxation for the purpose of building schoolhouses. Subsequent acts, most of them written by Dr. Stillman and



SEVENTH STREET, EAST FROM DIVISION STREET.

passed by the assistance of Mr. Marsh, secured the omitted privileges and others in addition.

As a result of the law of 1848 a town meeting was held on April 3 of that year, at which the citizens voted to raise a tax of \$1,200 for the purchase of land and the erection of a schoolhouse. As a site for the new building, the trustees purchased for \$400 one acre of land between West Fourth street, Union street (now Arlington avenue) and Fifth street, and here was built the first public school building in Plainfield. The town of Nottingham (now a part of Trenton) had erected a public school building in 1844, but, with this exception, the building in Plainfield was the first free public school building in the State outside of the cities of Newark, Paterson and Jersey City.

This first building was a frame house 30 feet by 50 feet, having two stories, each containing two school rooms and a basement, and when erected it was insured in the Plainfield Mutual Assurance Fire Company. The plans were prepared by a committee consisting of Joel Dunn, William P. Williamson and Robert Anderson, with the assistance of William Ayres. Sealed proposals for the proposed building were opened by the board on June 5, when the following were found to be the lowest bids:

Joel Dunn, carpenter's work.....	\$1,400.00
John Woodland, painting.....	199.99
William Richardson, masonry.....	430.00

Mr. Richardson failing to qualify, the masonry was later given to Benjamin M. Lawler, whose proposal was \$574.75, making the cost of the building itself about \$2,200. In 1856 a wing was added at a cost of \$1,200, which doubled the capacity of the building. In 1882 this building was burned, and in its place was erected the present Franklin School, at a cost of \$30,000.

The school that assembled in this first building, when it was ready for occupancy, in November, 1848, was presided over by Mr. George H. Mann, a sophomore from Union College, who taught the older boys; Miss Sarah Morse, who

taught the girls, and Miss La Due, who had charge of the primary children. The average attendance was 203.

The improvement of the school and the growth of the town made necessary the erection of an additional building, and in 1867 the Stillman building, on Fifth street, named in honor of Dr. Stillman, was erected for the higher grades at a cost of \$30,000.

In 1874 the Washington building was erected for a primary school at a cost of \$22,000. This was followed by the Bryant in 1886, costing \$36,000, and enlarged by an addition costing \$15,000 in 1891; the Irving, built in 1888, at a cost of \$35,000; the Lincoln, built in 1897, at a cost of \$27,000, and the Board of Education are now planning the erection of a new building for the High School at a cost of \$100,000.

The growth of the village and the educational sentiment fostered by the excellent elementary schools made it necessary to furnish a higher and higher grade of work, until a High School course was established, from which the first class graduated in 1870. This class consisted of eight members—Maggie Ball, Samuel P. Burr, Eva Hart, Perly H. Mason, Carrie Mitchell, Robert A. Meeker, Arthur L. Tittsworth, Charles F. Stillman.

Since that time twenty-nine classes have gone out from the school, making a total of 481 graduates. Many of these have gone on into higher institutions of learning, and many of them have done years of excellent service on the teaching force in our public schools. No less than seventy-four have graduated from the colleges, entering among others Harvard, Yale, Amherst, Williams, Brown, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton, Rutgers, Columbia, Lehigh, Alfred, Cornell, Oberlin, Vassar, Wellesley, Smith, Barnard, New York University, West Point, Leipsic and Leland Stanford, Jr. Seventeen have attended normal schools, and many more have attended medical and professional schools. In the various walks of life these graduates have done work of great value and some of them have attained high eminence. One of them is president of a university; another was sought for a similar position in another university; several are pro-



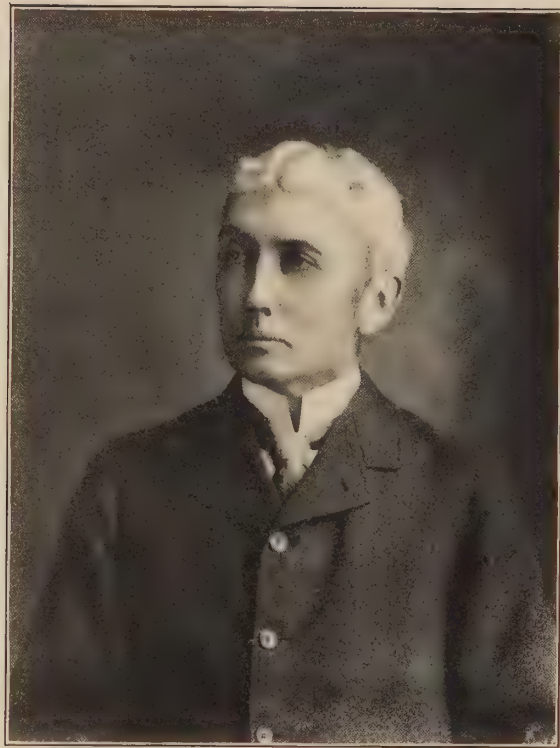
EAST SEVENTH STREET, FROM PARK AVENUE.

fessors in prominent institutions; Chataqua owes much to two who have been prominent on its executive force; the national committee of the Y. M. C. A. profits by the service of another, while the legal profession in the city and State, the ministry, and the domains of science and literature are adorned by the lives and work of others.

But it is not by such examples alone nor, in fact, by such, chiefly, that the work of the school should be measured.



HENRY M. MAXSON,  
Superintendent of Public Schools, Plainfield, N. J.



JOHN LEAL.



H. ALFRED STREULI.





CHARLES W. G. E. SCHIPPER.

For one who graduates there are three or four that attend the school for a few years, and who shall measure the silent influence of the school that goes with these pupils into their homes and work?

The course of study when the first class graduated in 1870 was meagre, but there was not its superior in the public schools of the State, and there were but two other schools that made equal pretensions. As education has advanced, the course has been improved, until now it covers a field almost equal to that of the college of earlier days. Five courses are offered: the classical, Latin-scientific, modern language, commercial and English, with the greatest freedom of choice in electives for those whose tastes or circumstances require a variation from the established course. The classical course fits pupils for any college or university, while the commercial course gives an admirable preparation for office work and for business life, and many of our young people are now filling positions for which it has prepared them. Not only this, but it is so strong that with slight variation it will also admit pupils to the various scientific courses in the colleges. When the new High School building is erected a manual training course will be established on the same broad, comprehensive basis of the commercial course, and other departments will be expanded and further perfected.

The citizens of Plainfield can still say to-day, as thirty years ago, that no High School in the State offers its pupils superior advantages, and but few are those that are equally good. The certificate of its principal takes its graduates into any college that receives pupils on certificate: Brown, Amherst, Williams, Wesleyan, Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, Oberlin, Rutgers and others; it is received by the regents of the University of the State of New York as a credential admitting to the professional courses in the schools of that State; and at three different colleges, within a few years, the graduates of the Plainfield High School have taken the prize for the best entrance examination. In whatever college they appear the excellence of their preparation is recognized.

In 1847 the school system had two teachers, one hundred and eighty pupils. Its only rooms were hired lofts. In 1901 the system employs seventy regular teachers, three special

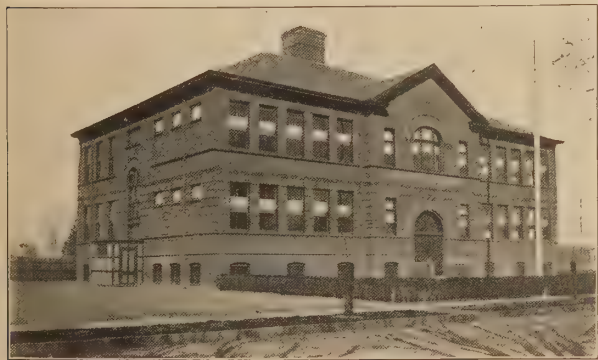
to offer, nor do they believe any needed, for not only have they exceeded their own anticipations under the unfavorable circumstances of the case, but have most effectually proved the practicability of the system of public school instruction in our village. It may not be known to all that by the new school law the discretion or power of the trustees in relation to the application of the public money has been very much limited. Previous to the passage of this law it had been



SYCAMORE STREET, CORNER OF WILLOW AVENUE,  
NORTH PLAINFIELD.

the practice in this place, and we presume in many other places, for the trustees to bestow the funds placed in their hands upon such school or schools within their limits as they thought proper, these schools at the same time being under the entire control of their teachers, and their individual property. This plan is now impracticable, for it is directed, "That it shall be the duty of the trustees of the several school districts in this State as soon as may be after their election aforesaid to provide a suitable house or room where a school shall be taught and to contract with and employ a competent teacher having a certificate of license," etc.

Unwilling to assume too much responsibility, and yet endeavoring to conform to the law, your trustees directed their first efforts to engage those employed at that time as teachers and deemed best qualified on every consideration to give satisfaction to the community. After some negotiation with those preferred and when arrangements had been verbally consummated, the proposals of the trustees were uncere- moniously rejected. Disappointed in this plan, their next effort was to obtain buildings adapted to their object and organize schools as directed by the statute. Here they again found themselves in difficulty, for Plainfield, with its eight churches and 429 children between the ages of five and sixteen years, did not and does not possess a single building adapted to a common school, and as their only chance they were obliged to rent, for one of the two schools proposed, an unoccupied hatter's shop, for the lower part of the village, and for the other the second story of a building erected originally for a cabinet shop. These rooms were repaired and put in habitable condition, benches and desks provided, teachers with the most ample testimonials as to capacity and experience were employed, and from the 16th of August to the present time the school has been in most successful operation, in fact, no more could be received in them without rendering necessary the employment of another teacher, and this with the advantages of perfect uniformity of textbooks and the most satisfactory arrangement of classes.



LINCOLN SCHOOL.

teachers, seven janitors, and two clerks; the enrollment is nearly 2,700; the school property has a valuation of \$232,000.

#### FIRST REPORT OF PLAINFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS, 1848.

The trustees of the Plainfield district, in presenting an account of the manner in which they have performed the trust imposed upon them by their fellow citizens, have no apology

The following statistics exhibit the condition of the school as to numbers and the principal studies:

	First quarter.	Second quarter.
Whole number on register.....	167	180
Average attendance .....	128	140
Studying Arithmetic .....	61	70
Studying Geography .....	54	65
Studying Natural History.....	12	12
Studying Grammar .....	12	16
Studying Algebra .....	10	10
Writing .....	96	10

The following statement exhibits the liabilities incurred by the trustees:

Teachers' wages .....	\$480.00
Rent of buildings.....	60.00
Fuel .....	18.45
Desks and benches.....	44.00
Use of stoves.....	6.00
Books for poorer children.....	17.41
Incidentals .....	3.39
	————— \$629.25

The fund of \$300 voted by the township for the tuition of the children of those supposed to be unable to pay it without inconvenience to themselves, was placed at the disposal of the trustees of the several districts of the township with the understanding that it should secure free tuition for all who were of this class. The public money appropriated to the district by the superintendent, including the proportion of the fund above stated, amounts to \$681.66, leaving a deficiency of nearly \$50 to be made good by the charge of one dollar per quarter to those able and willing to pay this sum. When this assessment is all received there will be sufficient means to meet every obligation incurred.

In calling this meeting the trustees have not only been actuated by a desire to lay before their constituents the history of their doings, but to give an opportunity for consultation and agreement upon some plan for the future. The time has now arrived when the school must close, for not only are their funds exhausted, but it is impossible to obtain even for another month the unsuitable apartments at present occupied. As an indispensable condition to any course which may be adopted, it is necessary, first of all, to erect a building for the purpose. The plan which seems adapted to our circumstances, which is unanimously approved by us and recommended for your adoption, is to build one schoolhouse for the whole village, in as central a position as practicable, and capable of containing in its basement and two stories all the children of the district, if necessary, with ground sufficiently ample to allow of recreation without infringing on the street or adjoining property. With such a building a perfect classification can be made of the scholars—by placing the larger boys by themselves in one room, the larger girls in another, and the smaller of both sexes in the third, each with teachers adapted to them—more than double the number of scholars can be taught than with the same number of teachers each in his independent school, and equally well.

To teach 300 children, which is the number for which we must make our estimates, would require but one male teacher of good qualifications, for the large boys, the remainder would be managed equally well, perhaps better, by females, with half the salary that the principal would receive, or less. Here, of course, would be a great saving in the most expensive item of expenditure—wages. This plan is not new; it is pursued in most of the cities and villages in New England,

New York and by some in New Jersey, and wherever tried meets with unqualified approval. But we would not urge this plan for its economy alone—it is a duty we owe to ourselves, to our children and to posterity that we should render common school education accessible to all, for thus alone can we provide for the permanent security of our republican institutions, and for the preservation of national intelligence and virtue.

Shall we unite on this question? Plainfield, it is true, could not support two seminaries, but cannot we provide amply for one common school? It is not requisite that we should fit our sons for college, but should not the humblest lad among us be qualified to perform in time with credit the duties of a good citizen. To obtain the opinion of this meeting, we would submit the following resolution for your consideration:

*Resolved*, That application be made to the Legislature, now in session, for an act empowering the inhabitants of Plainfield District No. 1, to raise money by tax for the erection



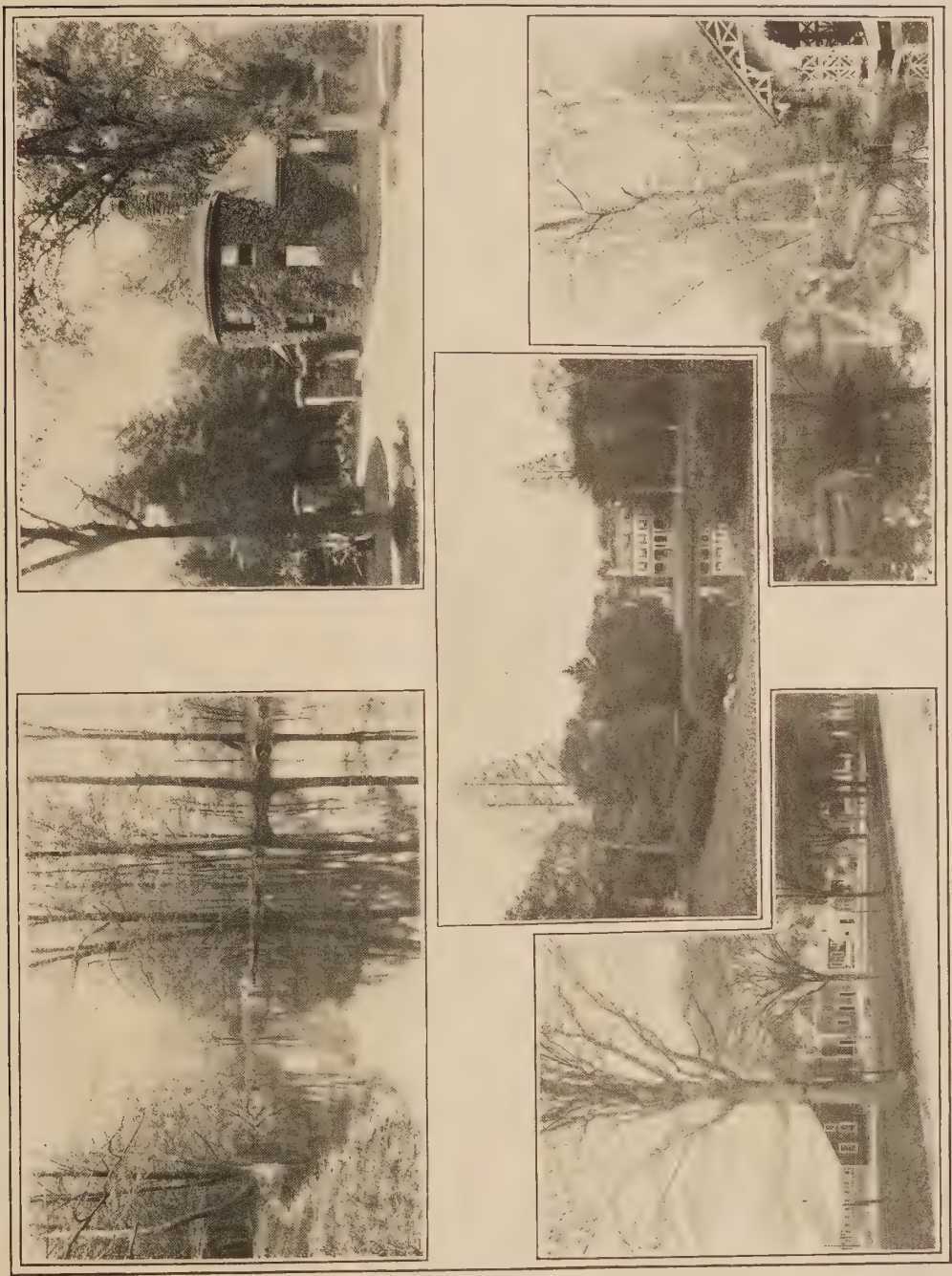
BRYANT SCHOOL.

of a schoolhouse and for the support of public schools in said district, the amount to be determined at the annual town meeting. Respectfully submitted,

ZACHARIAH WEBSTER,  
WM. SUTTON,  
JESSE VAIL,  
ROBERT ANDERSON,  
WM. DUNN,  
WM. P. WILLIAMSON,  
C. H. STILLMAN, *Supt. of Schools*.

Read and adopted by the district meeting, February 14, 1848. In consequence of the nearly unanimous approval of the plan thus recommended by the trustees, petitions numerously signed were forwarded to the Legislature. Although very late in the session when the petitions were received, a law was passed granting the power asked for and limiting the amount thus to be raised to \$2,000 per annum. One of the articles renders it necessary that "the trustees and town super-





SUMMER RESIDENCE OF MR. AND MRS. PIERRE MALL.





THE GABLES,  
Fanwood, New Jersey: Augustus D. Shepard.





RESIDENCE OF CRAIG A. MARSH

308 West 8th Street





intendent agree upon such sum of money as they or a majority of them may think proper to recommend to be raised at any one town meeting, and advertise the same for three weeks successively prior to such town meeting in a newspaper published in Plainfield." This official notice is subjoined.

## NOTICE.

In conformity with Article 4 of an Act, entitled "An Act to authorize the inhabitants of district number one in the township of Plainfield, in the county of Essex, to raise money to build schoolhouses"—the undersigned trustees of said district and the superintendent of public schools of said township do agree upon the sum of twelve hundred dollars as necessary to be raised at the ensuing town meeting, for the purposes stated in the act aforesaid.

C. H. STILLMAN,  
*Supt. Public Schools.*

ZACHARIAH WEBSTER,  
WM. SUTTON,  
JESSE VAIL,  
ROBT. ANDERSON,  
WM. DUNN,  
WM. P. WILLIAMSON,

*Trustees.*

NOTE.—The building erected in accordance with the above was completed in November, 1848, at a cost of about \$3,600, and school opened the same month with about 200 pupils, under the instruction of George H. Mann and two assistant teachers.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SINCE THE YEAR 1867.

- 1867.—Randolph Runyon, Charles H. Stillman, R. M. Titsworth.  
1868.—Charles H. Stillman, R. M. Titsworth, Jacob Kirkner.  
1869.—Charles H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, R. M. Titsworth.  
1870.—C. H. Stillman, M.D., Jacob Kirkner, R. M. Titsworth.  
1871.—Charles H. Stillman, L. E. Clark, R. M. Titsworth.  
1872.—Charles H. Stillman, R. M. Titsworth, L. E. Clark, Rev. J. H. Vincent, D.D., E. M. Brown.  
1873.—C. H. Stillman, R. M. Titsworth, L. E. Clark, Rev. J. H. Vincent, D.D., E. M. Brown.  
1874.—C. H. Stillman, R. M. Titsworth, L. E. Clark, Rev. J. H. Vincent, D.D., E. M. Brown.  
1875.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, Rev. J. H. Vincent, D.D., E. M. Brown, R. M. Titsworth.  
1876.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, R. M. Titsworth, John W. Murray, William B. Stewart.  
1877.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, R. M. Titsworth, John W. Murray, William B. Stewart.  
1878.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, William B. Stewart, John W. Murray, Nathan Harper.  
1879.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, William B. Stewart, John W. Murray, Nathan Harper.  
1880.—C. H. Stillman, Jacob Kirkner, William B. Stewart, John W. Murray, Nathan Harper.  
1881.—C. H. Stillman (died in office, December, 1881), Jacob Kirkner, William B. Stewart, John W. Murray, Nathan Harper.  
1882.—Jacob Kirkner, John W. Murray, Mason W. Tyler, Nathan Harper, George H. Babcock (appointed May 1, 1882, to fill unexpired term of C. H. Stillman, deceased).  
1883.—Jacob Kirkner, John W. Murray, Mason W. Tyler, Nathan Harper, George H. Babcock.  
1884.—Jacob Kirkner, John W. Murray, Mason W. Tyler, Nathan Harper, Rev. J. H. Hurlbut.

- 1885.—John W. Murray, Nathan Harper, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, Mason W. Tyler, Louis F. Wadsworth.  
1886.—John W. Murray, Nathan Harper, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, Mason W. Tyler, Louis F. Wadsworth.  
1887.—Jacob Kirkner, Nathan Harper, John W. Murray, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, Louis F. Wadsworth.  
1888.—Jacob Kirkner, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, John W. Murray, Louis F. Wadsworth, George H. Babcock.  
1889.—Jacob Kirkner, Louis F. Wadsworth, John W. Murray, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, George H. Babcock.  
1890.—Jacob Kirkner, John W. Murray, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, George H. Babcock, John B. Probasco, M.D.  
1891.—Jacob Kirkner, Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, George H. Babcock, John B. Probasco, M.D., E. L. Finch.  
1892.—Rev. J. L. Hurlbut, George H. Babcock, John B. Probasco, M.D., E. L. Finch, Fred. C. Lounsbury.  
1893.—George H. Babcock (died in office, December, 1893), Rev. J. L. Hurlbut (resigned May 11, 1893; Rev. W. R. Richards appointed to fill the unexpired term to December 31, 1893), John B. Probasco, M.D., E. L. Finch, Fred. C. Lounsbury.  
1894.—John B. Probasco, M.D., E. L. Finch, Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell (appointed January, 1894, to fill the unexpired term of George H. Babcock, deceased), Olin L. Jenkins, M.D.  
1895.—John B. Probasco, M.D., E. L. Finch, Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell, Olin L. Jenkins, M.D.  
1896.—John B. Probasco, M.D., Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell, Dr. Olin L. Jenkins, Charles F. Abbott.  
1897.—John B. Probasco, M.D., Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell, Dr. Olin L. Jenkins, Charles F. Abbott.  
1898.—John B. Probasco, M.D., Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell, Dr. Olin L. Jenkins, Charles F. Abbott.  
1899-1901.—John B. Probasco, M.D., Fred. C. Lounsbury, Leander N. Lovell, Charles F. Abbott, Rev. William R. Richards.

OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SINCE THE YEAR 1867.

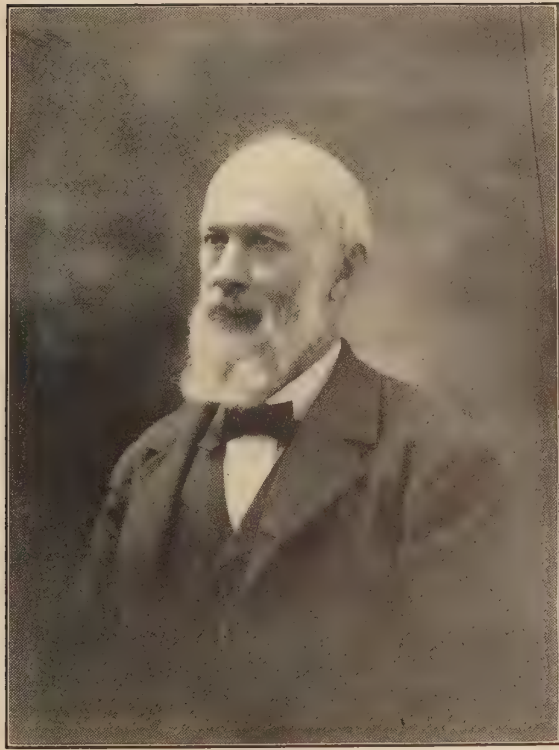
Presidents and their term of service: Randolph Runyon, 1867; Charles H. Stillman, M.D., 1868-1881 (died in office, December, 1881); Jacob Kirkner, 1882-1884; John W. Murray, 1885-1886; Jacob Kirkner, 1887-1891; George H. Babcock, 1892-1893; John B. Probasco, M.D., 1894.  
Secretaries and their term of service: Jacob Kirkner, 1868-1871; L. E. Clark, 1872-1874; Jacob Kirkner, 1875-1881; John W. Murray, 1882-1884; Nathan Harper, 1885-1887; Louis F. Wadsworth, 1888-1889; John W. Murray, 1890; E. L. Finch, 1891-1894.  
Superintendent: Henry M. Maxson, 1892.  
Principals and their term of service: E. C. Beach, 1867; C. E. Merwin, 1868-1871; A. D. Dunbar, 1872-1873; Archibald Lybolt, 1874; John P. Gross, 1875-1881 (died September, 1881), Miss Julia E. Buckley, 1881-1892; Henry M. Maxson, 1892-1895; Ira W. Travell, 1895.

GRADUATES OF THE PLAINFIELD HIGH  
SCHOOL, 1870-1900.

- 1870.—Maggie Ball, Samuel P. Burr, Eva Hart, Perly H. Mason, Carrie Mitchell, Robert A. Meeker, Arthur L. Titsworth, Charles F. Stillman.  
1872.—James P. Downs, William F. Downs, Arthur F. Kimball, Craig A. Marsh, Frazee Marsh, William M. Stillman, Esther L. Gavett, Laura F. Shangle, Millicent E. Humpston, Mary M. Cole, Lizzie W. Smith, Emily A. Gillies.



- 1873.—Charles Edwin Arnold, Charles Lowell Child, Ellis Wolcott Crater, George Winsor Davies, Charles Frederick Day, Edward Clinton Hoagland, Herbert Allen Kingsbury, Anna Williamson Marsh, Warren Graham Partridge, Alvira E. Randolph, George Bowen Smith.
- 1874.—Agnes Cooper Bryan, Charles Eugene Dunn, William Archibald Dunning, Agnes Emma Gibson, Minnie A. Hallock, Anna Hatfield, Lillie Margaret Higbie, Alice Willoughby Lansing, Ida Cornelia Mayher, James Parker, Jr., Andrew McClean Parker, David Milton Runyon, Hattie Walker Trow, Jessie Marion Utter.
- 1875.—Peter R. Buckalew, George H. Cushman, Jennie L. Demarest, Susie Lee Force, Sarah J. Harris, N. J. W. Kingsbury, William D. Murray, Sarah J. Randolph, Hattie A. Rich, Laura E. Rogers, Ferdinand Ruttman, Julia T. Sutton.
- 1876.—M. Lafayette Angleman, Imogen B. Bass, Anna W. Booraem, Everett D. Burr, Frank R. Burr, Charles A. Cushman, S. Anna Jeffers, Walter M. McGee, Frank W. Runyon, Everett S. Young.
- 1877.—Ida Angleman, A. Willis Anderson, Ernest O. Chamberlain, John F. Cloyd, C. Adeo Daniel, Carrie C. Dewey, Charles S. Dewey, Agnes E. Johnson, Julia J. Ketcham, Kate F. Kimball, Addison L. Laing, Agnes E. Mair, Mary H. Mather, Mary E. Mosher, Townsend Rushmore, Almira Stelle, Annie W. Townsend, Carrie L. Townsend, Carrie C. Voorhees, S. Louise Wood.
- 1878.—Lillie L. Bleeker, Stella Briant, Georgie L. Chamberlin, Clara O. Dunn, Carrie L. Force, Ellen A. Holmes, S. Bessie Kenyon, Mary T. Patterson, Emily Parker, Lillie F. Perry, Hattie T. Smith, Annie P. Thorn, Kate A. Vanderweg, Hattie H. Winslow, John W. DeCamp, Edward F. Milliken, William B. Montgomery, B. Rush Rhees, Howard J. Runyon, William M. Smith.
- 1879.—Mary Letitia Bolton, Emma L. Cadmus, Anna Davis Cooper, Mary Gardner, Adelaide Gillette, Anna B. Gillies, Carrie W. Ketcham, M. Aline Randolph, Julia R. Runyon, Cora B. Smalley, J. D. Hector Alliot, Charles Bullman, Felix G. Fezandie, Courtlandt Palmer Hull, Jr., Harry C. Munger, Oscar T. Roberts, George Bailey Titsworth, Franklin Baldwin Wiley.
- 1880.—Ernest R. Ackerman, Winfield S. Angleman, George F. T. Carter, L. May Coffin, R. Henry Depew, Libbie Dusenbury, May M. Grace, Lizzie Jeffers, Jean B. Murray, Mary Mullen, Nellie M. Pangborn, Mary E. Rocap, Jennie B. Skidmore, Franklin S. Smith, George E. Vincent, Lizzie Van Winkle.
- 1881.—Laura L. Brady, George Stuart Collins, Lillian Coward, Grace Daniel, Lena Gardner, C. Franc Goddard, Jennie V. Harriott, Aretta Hetfield, Beulah P. Ketcham, Foster Milliken, Flora A. Randolph, Carrie E. Randolph.
- 1882.—Harriet C. Baker, Clara V. Bass, Getty L. Button, Sadie D. Grant, Alvin E. Hoagland, George M. Kirkner, Edwin H. Lewis, Augusta A. Quaa, Laura A. Randolph, Mary E. Robinson, Laura L. Runyon, Mary S. Schwartz, Bessie B. Shepperson, Nora H. Thorn.
- 1883.—Roberta Lee Bass, Mary E. Clem, Francesca Escosura, M. Lillian Newman, Eleanor Sherwin, Alice M. Thompson, Jennie Vosseler.
- 1884.—S. Lena Bass, Mary L. Betts, Minnie M. Bird, Florence M. Clark, Belle Clem, Marie F. DuBois, Edith H. Esty, Kate S. Hazen, Carrie D. Hazen, Alice Holmes, William C. Hubbard, Ida L. Spicer, Florence A. Stevens, Madge L. Sutphen.
- 1885.—J. Augusta Ackerman, Maude A. Bowers, Estelle Daniel, Florence G. Hawkins, Annie A. Moore, Florence M. Randolph, Julia G. Taylor, William D. Thickstun.
- 1886.—Emma L. Adams, Frank T. Clawson, Fred. T. Cuthbert, Theodore J. Gillies, Jr., Tieman M. Horn, M. Louise Karner, Edith R. Leonard, Frank E. Newman, Herbert W. Peck, Flora R. Petrie, Laura E. Runyon.
- 1887.—Eleanor Beal, Clara M. Burt, Lucius L. Gilbert, Augusta Holmes, Helena E. Horan, Frank J. Hubbard, Walter J. Moore, Mary Titsworth, Abbie M. Wilson, Lucia N. Wood.
- 1888.—Laura F. Baker, Maude Benton, Ethel Rathbone, Liletta Dunham, Lillian Earl Fritts, Myra Rose Lowrie, Sarah Kate Potter, Sarah Louise Schuck, Sarah Cecelia Sharp, Emma Eliza West, Charles Ferman Dayton, Walter Nelson Chamberlin, Howard Huntington, Fred. Beebe Newman, Edward Ten Broeck Perine, Frank DeWitt Randolph, William Nelson Runyon, Harry Laray Maxson, Marion Fitz Randolph.
- 1889.—Charlotte Marshall Beekman, Anna Louise Bingener, Mary Emma French, Mary Malvina Fritts, Emma Frances Gillem, Alfred Edward Holmes, Teresa Genevieve Keenan, Maud E. Mitchell, Lyle Wellington Morehouse, Ella Underhill Osborne, Alice Mary Quinn, Louise B. Runyon, Leora D. Wenzel.
- 1890.—Bessie E. Blair, Marion M. Buxton, Emma V. Case, Margaret R. Case, William Wallace Coriell, Walter R. Darby, Eleanor E. Davie, Minnie Jackson French, Phebe E. Mills, Edmund Philip Nitchwitz, Edward James Patterson, Edward Charles Petrie, Asa F. Randolph, Caroline Fitz Randolph, Ernestine Curtis Smith, May Stelle, Alfred Preston White, C. Clara Woltman.
- 1891.—Alice J. Carroll, Margaret R. Cory, Martha A. Covert, Fred. A. Daboll, Lucy V. Dunham, Frank H. Flannery, Arthur F. Freeman, Edith L. Gilbert, Eudora O. Grant, Harriette R. Halloway, Amy S. Hyer, Alfred G. Killmer, Hannah L. Larkin, Anna B. Murphy, Louis G. Newman, Marian B. Nevius, Mary S. Patton, Auguste L. Saltzman, Frederick G. Smith, Mary F. Thompson, Lucy M. Titsworth, Evielena J. VanCourt, Howard S. Wilson.
- 1892.—Charles Horton Angleman, Edith Jane Buxton, Helen May Cahoone, Grace Johnson Carroll, Emily Mary Cathcart, Spencer L. Higgins, Addie Parker Jackson, Cora Estelle Mooney, Lillie Eloise Moore, Everett Lucius Morgan, Lillian Estelle Morgan, Louisa Patton, Grace Howard Petrie, Charles Elmer Scudder, Arthur Joseph Spicer, John Calvin Sutphen, Josie L. Elliott VanArsdale, Philip Bartlett Wells, John Alfred Wilson.
- 1893.—Martha Townsend Barrett, Oscar Alexander Campbell, Ralph Campbell, Raymond V. Carpenter, Robert M. Clark, Viola Percy Conklin, Sidney Clinton Crane, Thomas A. Cuming, Celia Daboll, Charles Barker Fernald, Georgie L. Joy Fountain, Helen T. French, Ariadne Gilbert, John Newton Goddard, Florence Leslie Kyte, Amelia Emeline Langdon, Edith C. Miles, Edward Stanley Morehouse, Robert B. Fitz Fandolph, Harriette Roberts Rockwell, Mary Adelaide Runyon, Gertrude Rushmore, Stephen Rushmore, Arthur Harold Serrell, Cora Amelia Sheppard, Ralph Bently Titsworth, Elsie S. C. VanZandt, Mary Byrd Wells, John Clapp Whiting, Ralph Delano Whiting.
- 1894.—Katherine Crissey Baxter, Julia Mabel Belknap, Grace McQueen Bonny, Mary Eloise Bourgeois, Emma Virginia Fish, Frederick Worth Goddard, Cora Earl Gardner, Elsie Rutherford Horne, Helen Augusta Hasbrouck, Carrie Marguerite Kellogg, John William Kirkner, Edith Cowell Lane, Nathan Lane, Jr., Phebe Durfee Lovell,



A. M. RUNYON.



ELMER RUNYON.



JAMES E. MARTINE.





ELIAS H. BIRD,  
Postmaster.

Mary Howe Miller, Mabel Watson Mitchell, Alice Louise Needham, Grace Adele Palmer, Norman Hayes Probasco, Champlain Lord Riley, Walter Reynolds, Florence Clough Smith, Albert Emil Woltman, Henry Claflin Wells.

1895.—Frances Estelle Bailey, John Vanderveer Beekman, Jr., Thomas Dezelle Blair, Valentine Laura Chandor, Frederick Coriell, Edward Osborne Clark, Edith Marion Darby, Henry Baldwin Drake, Laura Louise Emmons, Mabel Force, Clara Augusta Force, Helen Augusta Hazen, George Augustus Horne, Charles Burdette Morse, Etta Raybert, Robert Elwood Sebring, Edgar Irving Serrell, Bertha Shotwell Thorne, Isaac Edward Titsworth.

1896.—Julia Francois Bourgeois, Clyde Barrington Burnet, Florence May Bowman, Elizabeth Mott Cahoon, Annie La Rue Carle, Ada Hamilton Clark, Frank Wilbur Cornwell, Raymond Barnes Carroll, James Hazelwood Craig, Charles Marvin Dolliver, Henry Eggerding, Fred Chester Gaskill, Mary Scott Hull, Harriett Isabel King, Felix Layat, Minnie Viola Mitchell, Marion Alice Maynard, Grace Elting Overtone, Charles Anthony Squires, Fred. Squires, Mary Grace Steiner, Mildred Titsworth, Alden Wagner.

1897.—Mary Estelle Buckle, Edith Louise Burt, Grace Agnes Crane, Emma Cutter, Gertrude Louise Cathcart, Eva May Dayton, Florence May Duck, Louise Egan, Clara Emma Fellows, Alice Jenkins, Lilla Clifton Livesey, Adeline Mabel Manning, Sarah Cordelia Miller, Edith Louise Pruden, Sarah Edwards Schuyler, Lewis Squires, Ernest Salisbury Suffren, Sidney Ross Titsworth, William Becker Van Alstyne, Ada Elizabeth Woolston.

1898.—Henry Wyckoff Brower, Edith Blanche Clark, William A. De Long, Jr., Elwood Linnell Davis, Lillian Bessie Hunt, Carolyn Kampman, Adele Hope Kirby, Lydie Evodie Loizeaux, Clara Goodman Long, Arthur William Lederer, Marie Agnes McCarthy, Ellen Louise Osgood, Constance Patton, Henry Arthur Pearce, Sara Franklin Richards, Rhey Thompson Snodgrass.

1899.—Edward Leslie Coriell, Mary Evans Collier, William McDowell Coriell, Euphemia Judson Demarest, Merton Whitcomb Davis, William Asbury Fisher, Helen Louise Hall, Bertha Northrup Jenkins, Angelina Sutphen Kuhl, Helen Lovell, William Conant Morgan, Jessie Edgar Pruden, Robert Albert Pruden, Bessie May Fitz-Randolph, Grace Rowland, Marjorie Canfield Sterling, Jessie Eliot Bonald Saxton, Charles Morgan Titsworth, Laura Agnes Wikoff.

1900.—Helen Louise Brown, Edna Burr, Dora Amelia Bennett, Flora Campbell, Sarah Pauline Denton, Clara Gaston Dunham, Charles Hillman Fountain, Fannie May Fish, Mary Lock, Josephine Herring Lapsley, Mary Lee Mann, Ruth Potter Maxson, Beatrice Miner, Alice Louise Morgan, Emma Harper Miller, Iola Moore, Mary Alice Ross, Emily Sanford Runyon, Walter Squires, Albert Linden Schomp, Irma Georgette Wolf, Marion Drake Woodcock.

Class of 1901.—Martha Remsen Anthony, Elizabeth Plummer Bowen, Beulah Salome Cline, Kizzie Eager, Madeline Evans, Anna Mildred Greene, Ella Louise Lounsbury, Lillian Maclay, Margaret Rand, Elsie Townsend Smith, Ethel Lucile Titsworth, Ella Louise Whitney, Charles Ames Brooks, Edward Allyn Janes, Cyrus Hillman Kinsman, David Townsend Mason, Fred. Ramsay Mason, David Sterling Pond, William Sheppard Fitz-Randolph, Harold Leigh Smalley, Wetmore Holloway Titus, Andrew Mellick Tweedy, Lawrence Leslie Tweedy, Peter Louis Ughetta.

## COURSE OF STUDY IN THE PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

(Electives are printed in italics.)

### FIRST-YEAR CLASS.

CLASSICAL.		LATIN-SCIENTIFIC.	
English .....	3	English .....	3
Latin .....	5	Latin .....	5
Algebra .....	5	Algebra .....	5
Ancient History.....	5	<i>Ancient History, or</i> } .. 5	
		<i>Physical Geography</i> }	
	18		18

### SECOND-YEAR CLASS.

English .....	5	English .....	5
Cæsar .....	5	Cæsar .....	5
Greek .....	5	Algebra .....	2½
Algebra .....	2½	<i>Physics, or</i> } .. 5	
		<i>French</i> }	
	17½		17½

### JUNIOR CLASS.

English .....	3	English .....	3
Cicero .....	5	Cicero .....	5
Xenophon .....	5	Geometry .....	5
<i>Geometry, or</i> } .. 5		<i>Chemistry, or</i> }	
<i>Science</i> }		<i>French, or</i> }	
		<i>Modern History, or</i> } .. 5	
		<i>English Literature</i> }	
	18		18

### SENIOR CLASS.

English .....	3	English .....	3
Virgil .....	5	Virgil .....	5
Homer .....	5	2 of the following:	
<i>German, or French</i> } .. 5		<i>French,</i>	
<i>Geometry,</i> }		<i>German,</i>	
		<i>English Literature,</i>	
		<i>Astronomy and Geology,</i>	
		<i>History, Solid Geometry</i>	
		<i>and Trigonometry</i> }	10
	18		18

### FIRST-YEAR CLASS.

MODERN LANGUAGE.		COMMERCIAL.	
English .....	3	English .....	5
English History and		Bookkeeping * .....	5
Civics .....	5	Algebra .....	5
Algebra .....	5	Ancient History.....	5
Physical Geography....	5		
	18		20

### SECOND-YEAR CLASS.

English .....	5	English .....	5
French .....	5	Stenography and Type-	
Algebra .....	2½	writing * .....	5
<i>Physics, or</i> } .. 5		Bookkeeping * .....	5
<i>Ancient History</i> }		<i>History, or</i> }	
		<i>Ancient or Modern</i> }	
		<i>Language, or</i> }	5
		<i>Science</i> }	
	17½		20

## JUNIOR CLASS.

English .....	3	English .....	3
French .....	5	Stenography and Type-	
2 of the following:		writing* .....	5
Geometry,		Advanced Bookkeeping* 4	
Chemistry,		2 of the following:	
Modern History,	....10	Geometry,	
English Literature }		Ancient or Modern	
		Language,	
		Science,	....10
		History,	
		English Literature }	
	20		22

## SENIOR CLASS.

English .....	3	English .....	3
French .....	5	Stenography and Type-	
German .....	5	writing* .....	3
Geometry, or		Office Practice*, .....	4
Science, or		2 of the following:	
History, or	... 5	Mathematics,	
English Literature }		Ancient or Modern	
		Language,	
		Science,	....10
		History,	
		English Literature }	
	18		20

## ENGLISH.

## FIRST-YEAR CLASS.

English .....	3
Algebra .....	5
English History and	
Civics .....	5
Physical Geography.....	5
	18

## JUNIOR CLASS.

English .....	3
Geometry .....	5
Chemistry .....	5
Modern History.....	5
	18

## SECOND-YEAR CLASS.

English .....	5
Algebra .....	2½
Physics .....	5
Ancient History .....	5
	17½

## SENIOR CLASS.

English .....	3
Solid Geometry and	
Trigonometry .....	5
Astronomy and Geology	5
English Literature.....	5
	18

The starred subjects are recitations requiring no preparation.

The figures indicate the number of recitations per week during forty weeks.

Vocal music is required, one period a week throughout the course.

Drawing may be elected one period a week throughout the course, and receives credit.

## EXPLANATION OF COURSE OF STUDY.

## AIM OF THE SCHOOL.

The High School continues the work of education done in the Grammar School. Its course of study is arranged to meet the wants of all classes of pupils. The large amount of choice which it offers in the selection of a course and of subjects within that course is in keeping with its character

as the last step in public education. While it aims primarily to discipline the mind and to form the character aright, it seeks also to introduce the pupil to the world's treasures of general knowledge.

## COURSES OF STUDY.

The Classical and Latin-Scientific courses of study offer the college preparatory pupil opportunity for ample preparation for entering any university or college in the country. Those who maintain a satisfactory standing in their classes will be admitted on certificate of the principal, without examination, at Amherst, Williams, Wesleyan, Oberlin, New York University, Vassar, Smith, Wellesley, and other colleges where the plan is in force. They will also be fitted to enter without conditions, Princeton, Harvard, Yale, and Columbia.

The Latin-Scientific is the general course. In no way can a pupil so readily gain a mastery of the English language as by the study of some foreign language, preferably Latin.

Laboratory facilities and methods of teaching science enable the pupil to approach those subjects in the proper way, and to learn by doing.

The Modern Language course affords opportunity of making French and German the leading studies of the course.

The Business course not only gives the technical instruction which fits the pupil for a business career, but it also has an important disciplinary value in training to correctness and accuracy, and it offers a large fund of general information.

## SELECTION OF COURSES.

Upon admission to the High School, pupils are required to choose and pursue regularly one of the prescribed courses of study. For satisfactory reasons, a pupil may be allowed to take less than the required number of studies, and to graduate in five or more years.

A change of course will ordinarily not be allowed except at the beginning of the year, and then only upon the personal or written request of the parent.

Pupils sustaining a satisfactory record in their regular courses may elect studies from other courses to meet their special needs.

## PROMOTION.

At the end of the year pupils are "promoted," "conditioned," or "not promoted." A pupil is promoted whose standing is not less than 75 per cent., or "fair," in any prescribed study.

A pupil conditioned in any subject will not be classified with the next higher class until that subject is satisfactorily completed under the teacher's direction. Ordinarily, only one supplementary examination will be given, and failure in this, or neglect to remove the condition within a reasonable time, will be followed by requirement to repeat the study in class.

A pupil not promoted in any study must take that study again in class, although he may enter upon advanced studies in place of those satisfactorily completed.

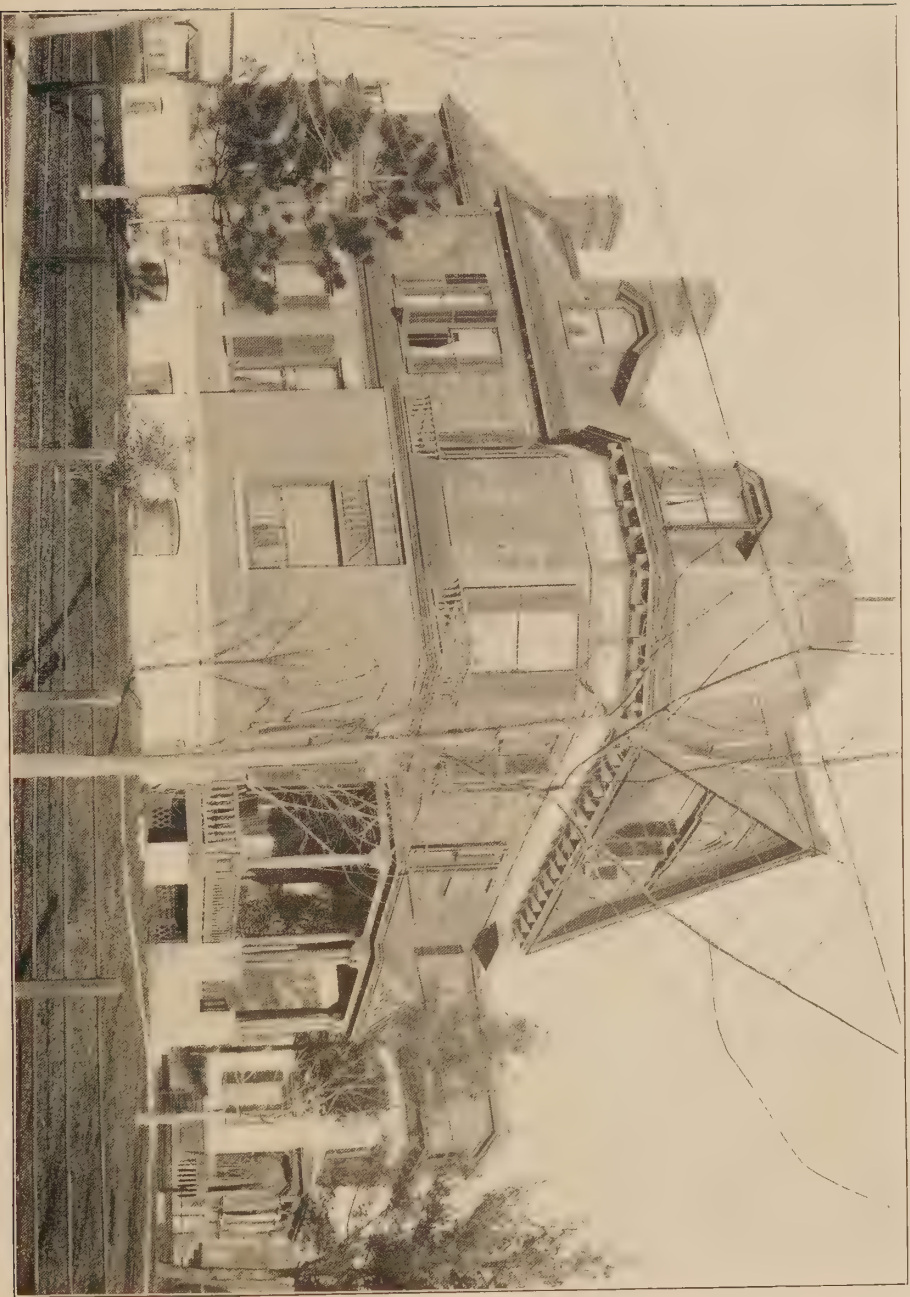
Exclusion from opportunity to take examination will follow very poor class work.

Standings are determined by taking into account the class work, examinations, and the teacher's estimate of progress.

## ADMISSION.

All graduates from the city Grammar Schools are admitted without examination. Other pupils desiring to enter the High School must pass examinations in Arithmetic, English Grammar, Spelling, and United States History. A





RESIDENCE OF OLIVER R. KING.







"THE CHESTNUTS," PLAINFIELD SEMINARY.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN V. BEEKMAN,  
Eighth Street and Madison Avenue.



course in Spencer's Inventional Geometry will add much to the pupil's ability to do the High School work.

#### NON-RESIDENT PUPILS.

Non-resident pupils are admitted to the full privileges of the school. They are required to pay tuition, to sustain a satisfactory record, and conform to all the requirements made of resident pupils; and they have the same use of the library, apparatus, and other aids to study.

Non-resident graduates are admitted to post-graduate study without payment of tuition.

#### LENGTH OF YEAR.

For convenience in arranging work, the school year is divided into two terms of twenty weeks each; but the vacations occur at Christmas time and about the first of April.

#### PRIZES.

(Offered to the Pupils of the School of 1900.)

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.—The George H. Babcock Prize, given by Mrs. Babcock. First prize—Hudson's Shakespeare, 12 vols.; second prize—Longfellow's Works, 11 vols.

MATHEMATICS.—The Dr. C. H. Stillman Prize, given by Mrs. Stillman. First prize—\$15.00 in gold; second prize—\$10.00 in gold.

TRANSLATION PRIZES.—For the best translation of assigned passages in the various languages, the money to be expended in books chosen by the receiver.

MODERN LANGUAGES.—Given by Mr. Ernest R. Ackerman. Senior French—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00. Junior French—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00. German—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00.

LATIN LANGUAGE.—Given by J. B. Probasco, M. D. Senior Latin—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00. Junior Latin—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00. Second Year Latin—First prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00.

UNITED STATES HISTORY.—Given by William R. Richards, D. D. Green's History of the English People, 4 vols.

PENMANSHIP.—Given by Mr. Charles F. Abbott. Bryant's Library of Poetry and Song.

Two prizes, one for the best writing and one for the greatest improvement.

#### PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

##### THE PLAINFIELD SEMINARY.

The Plainfield Seminary is one of the private educational institutions that has grown up with the town. In 1867, when the present proprietor began her labors here, Plainfield was a charming country village of four or five thousand inhabitants. The seminary has been, from the beginning, one of the strongest intellectual influences of the community. About this institution, for the past thirty years, have gradually gathered memories of many important as well as pleasant events. The first entertainment ever given for the benefit of the Muhlenberg Hospital was given in its grounds, and the first Woman's Club of Plainfield was created within its walls. Once it has been called into requisition for the founding of a church. Here John Fisk, Davidson, Young, Crawford, Page, Boysen and many other famous men have lectured.

The seminary building stands in the center of ample

grounds, and is surrounded by grand old trees. With its dignified proportions and solid brick walls, it is an interesting example of the Renaissance style of architecture. The study hall is large and airy, affording abundant room for the daily gymnastic exercises in which all the pupils join. There are separate rooms for the primary department and for class recitations.

The policy of the school has always been liberal and at the same time conservative. While the methods of instruction have been modified to keep pace with the progress of the times, novelty has never been regarded as a just cause for change. Every real improvement has been, after careful consideration, either adopted or adapted to the needs of the pupils. The value of experience, which gives a quality to instruction not to be found in any amount of mere theory, has always been recognized by the principals. Teachers are retained as much for their adaptation to their work as for their training. They are expected to keep in touch with the newest methods and to adopt only such as seem to be an improvement on the old. To this end, they avail themselves of the best summer schools and of the numerous discussions on education held at the School Masters' Association, as well as those found in the leading educational magazines.

The seminary responded at once to the demand for collegiate and preparatory work, and the department has been growing steadily for the past eight years. It has sent representatives to Bryn Mawr, Vassar, Radcliffe, Smith, Wellesley, New York Teachers' College and Cornell University. Several of these colleges receive seminary pupils on certificate.

The aim of the school is to give girls an education which shall render them intelligent women, with good health and sound nerves, whether they take the college preparatory course or choose rather to work along some other line. The classes are small and such supervision is exercised over the studies of each pupil that even a delicate girl can accomplish work which, both in quality and quantity, would be impossible under less favorable circumstances.

Miss Kenyon still retains the principalship, but for some years Miss Arnold has been associate principal. With her genial and vigorous co-operation, the work of the school continues to make steady advancement.

##### MR. LEAL'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

In the year 1882 the attention of the present principal was attracted toward this city by the fact that about twenty-five boys were traveling to and fro by train daily to attend school in another city. After a visit here, it was deemed best to undertake to establish a private school whose particular aim should be the preparation of boys for college. Very generous support was granted to the new enterprise, and as many pupils as could well be accommodated in the building selected were present upon the opening day in September of that year. Some boys were so nearly ready for college that their preparation could be completed in one year. It happened, therefore, that two boys were entered at Yale at the end of the first year, and the succession of classes to enter college year by year has been unbroken.

The building used at first had been a private dwelling, and was changed in its interior for the new purpose. More recently it has been again remodelled and stands as a dwelling upon East Front street, near the corner of Sandford avenue.

After four years' work, it was necessary that new quarters should be secured, adapted to the needs of the school and fitted to be its permanent home; and so, in 1886, the present building was erected and occupied. This location



happens to be classic ground, for on this very spot stood the first select school of the town of Plainfield. In 1811 the plot was set off from the Leonard estate and upon it was erected a building known as the Academy, which was used continuously for school purposes until 1835, when it was partially destroyed by fire, and the school came to an end. From that time until 1886 the lot was termed the Academy lot, but was unoccupied.

The policy of the school has been to really prepare boys for what they were about to do. It has held out no inducements to take the course of study as an end in itself. It has granted no diplomas. It has striven to lay foundations. It has not attempted to make a curriculum of studies which should include everything. If its boys have uniformly done good work in college, it is believed that this is due not alone to the fact that they were good students, but also to the fact that their special wants for the college selected were considered in their preparatory work. The fact that the classes are small and that the number of teachers is proportionately so large makes it possible to give the personal attention which a pupil needs. So long as the entrance examinations vary so much in detail, the candidates for the different colleges must be prepared intelligently to cope with the tests to which they are to be subjected. This means more than any reader will apprehend at a single glance. No single course of study, however wisely planned, will equip a class of boys to meet the requirements at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, Cornell and Lehigh equally well. The plan adopted in this school has not alone seemed wise to the principal, but has now been thoroughly tested in practice. Nearly one hundred and fifty boys have been sent to college since it opened its doors for work, and the relations existing

between the school and the colleges are most friendly. The commendation received from the authorities at the above-named colleges are most appreciative and cordial.

The entrance to college by certificate from this school has not been regarded as desirable. In the single instance where the request was made it was granted. It is believed that boys can be more thoroughly prepared if they must meet a written test than if the principal's certificate opens the door for entrance.

As a matter of fact, almost every candidate has entered a college where certificates are not accepted under any circumstances.

In a town like Plainfield, all boys cannot go to college, and the claims of business have not been disregarded in planning for boys. Those preparing for business receive a most careful training in mathematics, English, modern languages, civil government and history. These subjects must always be fundamental, and without them other accomplishments can be only a veneer. The work in English, in all the classes, in leading boys to appreciate the best in literature and to secure for themselves a graceful and forceful style, is carefully planned and conscientiously executed.

In this kind of work, continuously and happily, for so many years, the principal has busied himself; shut away largely from contact with other men; living in and with his boys; believing that this work calls for the most complete consecration and the largest measure of sacrifice; in order that the boys around whom our hopes and affections are so entwined, and upon whom the future of our republic depends, may be made ready to take, without shrinking, their places among men, and to do their part of the world's work heroically.



ROCKVIEW AVENUE, NORTH PLAINFIELD.



RESIDENCE OF JOHN BUSHNELL,  
No. 831 Central Avenue.





RESIDENCE OF CHARLES F. ABBOTT.  
966 Central Avenue.



RESIDENCE OF R. HENRY DEPEW.



RESIDENCE OF MRS. MARY A. WHITE,  
40 Willow Avenue, North Plainfield.





RESIDENCE OF E. WOLTMANN,  
669 West Seventh Street.



RESIDENCE OF ELLIOT T. BARROWS,  
No. 739 West Eighth Street.

# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER IX.

### PLAINFIELD CHURCHES—YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

#### GRACE CHURCH PARISH.

The history of the parish goes back to the year 1853, when a meeting was held in the month of April, presided over by the Rev. Philemon E. Coe.

Grace church was selected as the name, and the time of the annual meeting was determined. On the 12th of July, 1854, the cornerstone of the building, which was erected on Front street, near Richmond, was laid by Bishop Doane. It was his first visit to the village of Plainfield. The day



OLD GRACE PARISH CHURCH.

was most favorable, and the large assemblage seemed much gratified by the ceremony.

Mr. Coe continued to serve the little flock, services being held in the village schoolhouse, until 1858, when he resigned. This schoolhouse was subsequently changed into a dwelling; and still stands on Church street, between Front and Second streets. The vestry directed the secretary to express to Mr. Coe "their heartfelt regret at his resignation, after seven years' untiring efforts to organize and establish Grace church, without any pecuniary compensation for his disinterested and valuable services." More than this, he not only served them faithfully during those years, without compensation, but advanced a considerable part of the money needed to build the church, taking a mortgage as security.

When the time came for the consecration of the church, this mortgage was satisfied, and a clear title to the lot, which had been given by Mr. Mahlon Vail and Mr. Rockwell on condition that services were held in the church continuously for twenty years. The condition had not been complied with, for the church had been abandoned once, and again being closed at one time for a long period, as the congregation was searching for a better location, services being held in hired places nearer to the center of population. These experiments were frequent and long continued. The grantors of the lot, however, declined to avail themselves of what was their right, and a good title was conveyed, and the church was consecrated by Bishop Odenheimer, March 21, 1870.

Having done much for the parish by his untiring zeal, Dr. Fox resigned in the following September and accepted a call to St. Paul's church, Brooklyn, E. D., where he labored very successfully in gathering a congregation, and then went to Chicago, and in the midst of his useful work there he was suddenly stricken down and died.

The Rev. W. W. Holly was called to succeed him, and declined.

The present rector was called from his position as associate secretary of the Board of Missions, and entered upon his duties November 1, 1870.

The enlargement of the church, which had been made during his predecessor's rectorship, was soon found insufficient to meet the demands of the congregation, and again the question of removal or a further enlargement of the building was discussed. It was a very earnest debate, long continued. An extension of the capacity of the structure was finally decided upon, by adding lean-tos on both sides, which would provide about 150 more sittings. From April to July, 1872, we worshipped in Laing's Hall, while the enlargement was being made.

The next item of parochial interest was the purchase of a



GRACE P. E. CHURCH.

new organ, which was paid for by the Parish Aid Society, at a cost of \$1,500. From this time until 1875 the congregation continued to grow but slowly, while the city was growing rapidly in an opposite direction, and most of the growth was at a considerable distance from the church. Nevertheless, inasmuch as subscriptions were not forthcoming to warrant the vestry to take steps for the purchase of a lot in a more favorable location, it was determined to remain where we were, and in December, 1871, the rector was requested to prepare a circular setting forth the need of providing sit-



tings for 200 or 300 more persons than could at that time be accommodated in the church, asking subscriptions of \$2,500 or \$3,000 for this purpose and for the purchase of the lot adjoining the church, which was offered for \$4 500. This



CRESCENT AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

lot was purchased, and after being one of our burdens for several years was recently sold.

At last, on October 4, 1875, the decision was reached that a change of location must be made, if the church was to be maintained. The closing services in the old locality were held on May 18, 1876. The cornerstone of the building to be erected on the corner of Sycamore and Sixth streets was laid by Bishop Scarborough, July 12, 1876, and the building now known as the Parish House was taken down and removed and set up on its present site, a lot 90x300 feet having been purchased. On October 15, the same year, we were permitted to re-enter it and resume our work for the glory of God and the advancement of Christ's kingdom. The congregation nearly doubled in size, and the Sunday school more than doubled. In a short time it became necessary to enlarge the seating capacity by building an extension, which is now the Guild Room.

Here we continued to worship until 1892, when, on Easter Day, the first services were held in the new church. There was an early celebration of the Holy Communion, at which the bishop made an address and was the celebrant. Sixty



BETHEL CHAPEL.

communicants received the Eucharist. At 10:30 there was morning prayer, and the bishop preached.

In the afternoon the children of the parish had their Easter festival. At night there was a missionary service, at which

the Rev. Dr. Langford spoke on the missionary work of the church. The offerings during the day were \$1,347. It was a day long to be remembered by every one who loved Grace church, to be especially remembered with devout thanksgiving by those who had gone through all the toil and travail that had to be endured before the goal was reached.

Here for, now, seven years our work has gone on. God has greatly blessed us and given us many things to be thankful for.

#### THE CRESCENT AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church was organized in 1844, with eighty-six members. Its first house of worship stood on East Front street, near the corner of Park avenue. The present building on Crescent avenue was completed in 1872, under the pastorate of Dr. Bliss. The chapel



REV. WILLIAM R. RICHARDS.

at the rear of the church, after partial destruction by fire, was rebuilt and greatly enlarged in 1890.

The pastors of the church, from its organization, have been: Rev. William Whittaker, 1845-1854; Rev. Theo. S. Brown, 1855-1867; Rev. J. C. Bliss, 1867-1883; Rev. William R. Richards, 1884—.

As reported at the annual meeting in April, 1900, the congregation worshipping on Crescent avenue had on its communion roll 924 names, and on its Sunday school roll 334 names. The benevolent offerings for the previous year had been \$17,563, and the congregational expenses \$12,256.

Within the last twelve years this church has thrown much of its energy into work connected with the new branches which have been established, as they seemed to be needed, in other parts of the city. The purpose has been to apply the

resources of the church, spiritual and financial, in whatever quarter of the town they could do the most good.

With this purpose in view, the Bethel chapel was organized in 1884, on the corner of Fifth and Washington streets. Its present edifice was erected in 1887.

In 1888 the Hope chapel was organized, on West Fourth street, in a small building, moved down from the Bethel chapel. By successive enlargements, including a new house of worship, it has grown from this small beginning to its present spacious dimensions.

In 1893 the Warren chapel, which had conducted a successful work for many years as a union mission, was received under the care of this church, at its own request.

Each of these chapels carries on its work under an acting pastor of its own; but they all, together with the original congregation on Crescent avenue, constitute a single ecclesiastical body under the care of one church session. At the time of the last annual meeting, the total membership of

Ketcham, Jr., 1871 to 1892; the Rev. Charles E. Herring, from 1892 to the present time.

The cornerstone of the First church building was laid in 1825, and "after much embarrassment occasioned by our



HOPE CHAPEL.

infant state," says the Rev. Mr. Bond, the edifice was finished and solemnly dedicated to the worship of the Triune Jehovah in 1827."

In 1855 the building was too small to accommodate the growing congregation and it was divided, moved to East Fourth street, at the side of the Central Railroad, and made over into dwelling houses, which still exist. Then was erected the second edifice, which was of brick and lasted until the year 1888.

At that time the present edifice was erected, largely through the kindness of Mrs. Sarah M. Latimer, and the window in the front of the church is in her memory. The organ of the church was presented by Mrs. Latimer in memory of her daughter.

#### TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH.

On the 29th of March, 1880, this church was organized with fifty-five members, under the style and title of "The Trinity Reformed (Dutch) Church of Plainfield, N. J.," by



TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH.

this church, including all its branches, was 1,411, of whom 115 had been added during the year; and the total membership of Sunday schools, 1,630.

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The organization of this church took place on the 10th of July, 1825. Eighteen persons met under the shade of a few large trees that stood near the old mill dam and were organized into a church by a committee of the Elizabethtown Presbytery. The celebration of the Lord's Supper was observed at the same time and place.

The Rev. Lewis Bon preached for the church by appointment of the Presbytery from June, 1826, to April, 1829, when he was installed as pastor. He continued as such until 1857, when he was followed by the Rev. Joseph H. Myers from 1858 to 1860; the Rev. Dr. Samuel M. Studdiford from 1860 to 1862; the Rev. Dr. D. V. McLean from 1862 to 1863; the Rev. Benjamin Corey from 1863 to 1868; the Rev. Henry L. Teller from 1868 to 1870; the Rev. Dr. Kneeland P.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

a committee of the classis of Newark, of which the late Rev. W. J. R. Taylor, D.D., was chairman.

Henry Lindsley and George L. Van Emburgh were elected elders and David O. Kilbourn was chosen deacon.

The services of organization were held in the building



formerly occupied by the First Congregational church, which had been abandoned by that society and which was purchased June 20, 1880, by the Trinity Reformed church.

After several ineffectual attempts to secure a pastor, a call was made in December, 1880, upon Rev. A. V. V. Raymond, of the First Reformed church of Paterson, N. J. He accepted and began his labor on the first Sabbath in January, 1881. He continued in the discharge of his pastoral duties until February 1, 1887, when he accepted a call



WEST SEVENTH STREET AND PLAINFIELD AVENUE.

to the Fourth Presbyterian church of Albany, N. Y. In May, 1887, a call was extended to the present pastor, Rev. Cornelius Schenck, then of the Fourth Reformed church of Philadelphia. He accepted, and was installed June 30.

Under the two pastors the church had grown from the original fifty-five members to a membership of five hundred and forty-five; the Sabbath-school from sixty-four to an enrollment of five hundred and ten.

In the winter of 1897 the edifice was extensively remodeled and at the services of dedication held Sunday, February 27, 1898, the Rev. A. V. V. Raymond, D.D., president of Union College, preached the sermon. The various societies that are found in the average church have a congenial home in Trinity, and each, along its own lines, is doing efficient work.

The church attains its majority, healthy and strong, with no debt, mortgage or otherwise, thankful for the past, hopeful for the future.

#### ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH.

The present parish of St. Stephen is an outcome of a Union chapel which was instituted at Netherwood in 1880. After six years of struggle, the Union services had become a confessed failure, and in the spring of 1886 the trustees of the chapel association offered the use of the building to Grace church, Plainfield, on the sole condition that religious services should be regularly maintained. The Rev. Clayton Eddy was engaged as missionary, and on the first Sunday in June, 1886, the chapel was opened as a parish mission of the Episcopal church, and the offices of that church have been continued ever since without intermission. But the favor of Grace church did not extend beyond the summer of 1886, and Mr. Eddy resigned his charge on the last Sunday of October. The bishop of the diocese, the Rt. Rev. John Scarborough, sanctioned the continuation of the mission by recognizing the organization as a diocesan mission under the name of the Church of our Saviour. Mr. William Palmer Smith and Mr. J. J. H. Poillon were among the earlier at-

tendants at the services, and from the outset they were devoted supporters of the movement to establish the church on the hill. The relations of the young organization with Grace church, Plainfield, were terminated when the bishop gave his sanction to their continuing as an independent mission. On the first day of July, 1888, the Rev. S. P. Simpson, the present incumbent, was called by the mission to take charge of the services, and on September 5 he entered upon his duties. In December of the same year the choir proper and sanctuary were built and the altar erected. The altar and the table are of ash, with a marble incense let into the center of the wooden incense of the altar. The vested choir of boys was started in March, 1889. The baptismal font of Caen stone, elaborately carved, was placed at the entrance door of the church, the expense of which, \$120, being donated by friends of the missionary, with the help of the Sunday-school children. In 1893 a new organ was provided for the church, Dr. Messitt, of Trinity church, New York, giving a recital in November to test the merits of its musical capacity. On September 4, 1894, an application was made to the bishop and standing committee of the diocese for the formation of a parish to be called St. Stephen's. This application was duly allowed, and since that date St. Stephen's has been an acknowledged parish of the Diocese of New Jersey. The present officers of the church, May 1, 1901, are: Wardens—Wm. Palmer Smith and S. Seabury Guion; Vestrymen—A. J. Beal, W. W. Wheelan and J. H. Buckley.

#### PARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.

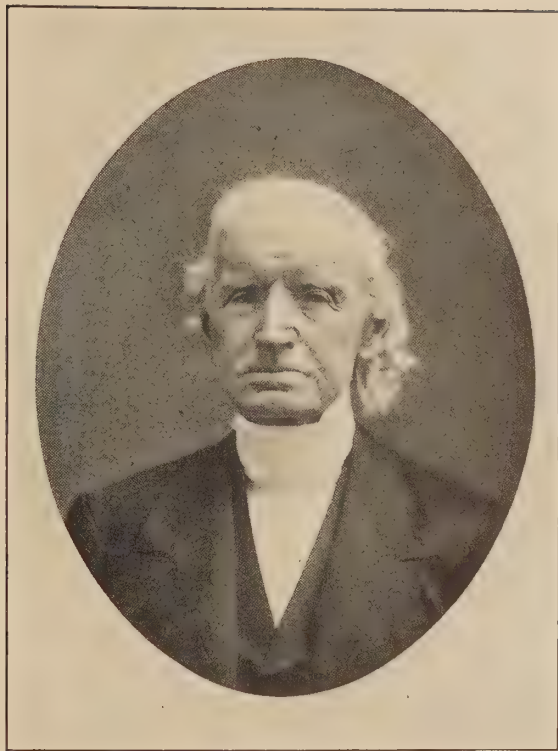
At the time of the formation, twenty-five years ago, of the congregation now known as the Park Avenue Baptist church of Plainfield, N. J., the growth of the city had advanced so rapidly, including within its boundaries a largely increased extent of territory, that the interests of the denomination seemed to call for the location of a church at a point distant from that part of the city already occupied by the other two Baptist churches.

This church was regularly organized as the Central Baptist church of Plainfield at a special meeting called for that purpose on Wednesday evening, March 16, 1876. At this meeting, the first, or constituted, members, to the number of 134, were regularly received by letters of dismission from other churches, as follows: 95 from the Second Baptist church of Plainfield (which has since been disbanded), 15 from the First Baptist church of Plainfield, and the remaining 14 from various other Baptist churches.

The meeting also appointed a committee to wait upon Rev. Robert Lowry, D. D., one of the constituent members, urging him, on behalf of the church, to serve them as pastor. Dr. Lowry soon after accepted the call.

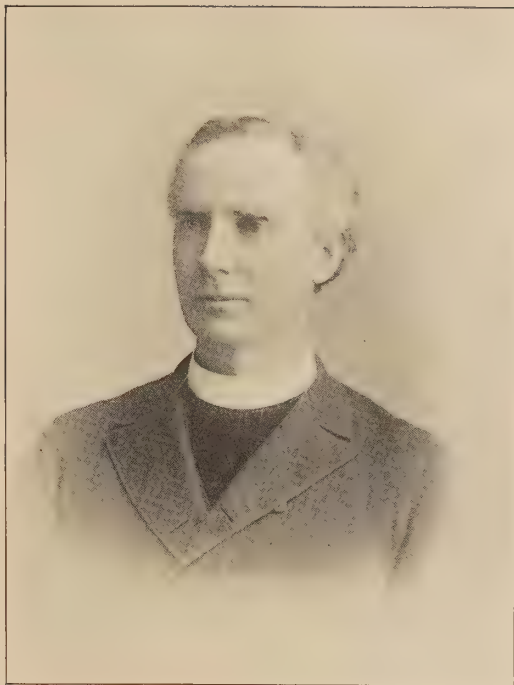
For several months prior to this time this people has held regular meetings for worship and Bible study in the Seventh-Day Baptist church edifice, corner of Central avenue and Fifth street, under the leadership of Dr. Lowry. It was here the church was organized, and continued under the name of the Central Baptist church.

After worshipping for several years in the Seventh-Day edifice, the congregation, under the wise guidance and energetic preaching of Dr. Lowry, had increased in numbers and influence to such an extent that it was felt that the church should seek a permanent home of its own. At this juncture, one of our citizens, Mr. James E. Martine, offered to donate the church a valuable lot at the corner of Park and Prospect avenues. The offer was accepted, and the present beautiful edifice was finally erected upon the property



REV. LEWIS BOND.





REV. P. E. SMYTH.





REV. WILLIAM H. MILLER.

donated. Preliminary services were held in the chapel in May, 1880, and the church edifice formally dedicated in December, 1880.

During Dr. Lowry's pastorate, in addition to the 124 constituent members already noted, there were added 179 new members, 93 by baptism, 83 by letter and 3 by experience. Also, during his pastorate, two young men of the church were licensed to preach the Gospel, one of them the pastor's son, Harry M. Lowry.

Dr. Lowry resigned his pastorate in February, 1885, but continued a member of the church until his death, November 25, 1889.

Several months later the church extended an unanimous call to Rev. Asa Reed Dilts, who had just previously been graduated from Union Theological Seminary. Recognition services were held on October 15, 1885. Rev. Mr. Dilts served the church until April, 1892, when he resigned his pastorate. During this pastorate, there were added to the church 109 new members, 44 by baptism, 64 by letter, and 1 by experience.

The present pastor, Rev. John Wilbur Richardson, entered upon his pastorate in November, 1892. This pastorate has been marked by a steady, substantial growth, both spiritually and temporally, in all departments of the work. There have been added during this period 208 members, the largest accession during either of the three pastorates; by baptism, 91; by letter, 120; and by experience, 2. One member, Brother George Poole, was licensed to preach on February 2, 1898, and publicly ordained to the ministry in this church on February 21, 1899.

The present membership of the Park Avenue Baptist is 385, of whom 35 remain of the original 124 constituent members.

#### THE SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST—1838-1901.

In 1836 a company of Seventh-Day Baptists living in Plainfield voted in favor of building a house of worship. Simeon F. Randolph, Randolph Dunham and Isaac D. Titsworth were the building committee; and the house was erected on the corner of Third and Center streets (now Central avenue). It was dedicated February 8, 1838, the sermon being preached by Rev. John Greene, of Rhode Island. Rev. William B. Mayson, of the Piscataway (New Market) church; Rev. Lewis Bond, of the Plainfield First Presbyterian church, and Rev. Daniel Hill, of the First Baptist church, took part in the services. On the following day the Plainfield Seventh-Day Baptist Church of Christ was organized, with fifty-seven members. Rev. W. B. Maxson preached, and Elders John Watson, John Davis and John Greene had part in the interesting services.

In 1867 a second and larger house of worship was dedicated, at the corner of Central avenue and Fifth street. The building committee was Clarke Rogers, J. A. Hubbard, T. B. Stillman, J. D. Titsworth, A. D. Titsworth, J. F. Hubbard, R. M. Titsworth and I. S. Dunham. Rev. T. R. Williams preached the dedication sermon, and Rev. A. R. Cornwall and Rev. L. C. Rogers assisted in the services.

On account of the need of more and better room for the Sabbath school, prayer meeting and other purposes, this house was moved so as to front on Madison avenue and used at a public school building, and the present and third house of worship was dedicated January 13, 1894, the pastor, Rev. A. H. Lewis, D. D., preaching the sermon, and Rev. F. E. Peterson and Rev. L. E. Livermore taking part in the services. The building committee consisted of J. F.

Hubbard, Charles Potter, George H. Babcock, J. A. Hubbard, R. M. Titsworth and E. R. Pope.

The cost of the first church was about \$5,000, of the second \$35,000, of the third, \$65,500.

The first sexton received \$12 a year; and the first minister was engaged for \$10 a month and his board.

Pastors—Lucius Crandall (supply and pastor), 1838-41, 1846-51; Samuel Davison, 1844-46; James H. Cochran, 1852-53; James Bailey, 1853-64; A. R. Cornwall, 1866-67; T. R. Williams, 1867-71; D. E. Maxson, 1871-79; A. H. Lewis, 1880-96; Arthur E. Main, 1896—.

Ministers who served the church as supplies for longer or shorter periods—Giles M. Langworthy, David Clawson, W. B. Gillette, Solomon Carpenter, George B. Utter, Isaac Moore, J. W. Morton, James L. Scott, O. U. Whitford, J. L. Huffman, M. B. Kelley.

Deacons, 1838-1901—Randolph Dunham, A. D. Titsworth, I. D. Titsworth, Randolph Dunn, Isaac S. Dunn, Daniel B. Rogers, Clarke Rogers, B. D. Randolph, Thomas H. Tomlinson, J. D. Spicer, Thomas F. Randolph, N. H. Randolph, F. S. Wells.

Church Clerks—Thomas S. Albert, 1838-67; J. D. Spicer, since 1867.

Sabbath School Superintendents, 1838-1901—Thomas S. Alberti, Rev. Samuel Davison, William Dunn, Isaac S. Dunham, Isaac S. Dunn, Rudolph M. Titsworth, Joseph D. Spicer, John D. Titsworth, Charles Potter, George H. Babcock, David E. Titsworth (since 1883).

Church Trustees, 1838-1901—Randolph Dunham, A. D. Titsworth, William Dunn, Asa F. Randolph, Alexander Dunham, Phineas F. Randolph, Rudolph M. Titsworth, J. A. Hubbard, Charles H. Stillman, Clarke Rogers, David L. Randolph, Ethan Lamphear, Thomas H. Tomlinson, George H. Babcock, Lewis C. Randolph, Thomas F. Randolph, E. R. Pope, Charles Potter, J. F. Hubbard, William M. Stillman, H. M. Maxson, D. E. Titsworth.

Church Treasurers, 1838-1901—R. M. Titsworth, Charles



PARK AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Potter, J. M. Titsworth, George B. Titsworth, J. F. Hubbard.

Choristers, 1838-1901—The church music has been under the leadership of such men as I. D. Titsworth, J. D. Titsworth, J. D. Randolph, E. B. Titsworth, C. S. Titsworth, J. A. Hubbard, D. B. Rogers, J. F. Hubbard, Charles Potter, J. D. Spicer, Dr. Albert Utter, Arthur L. Titsworth and David E. Titsworth.

Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion—J. Frank Hubbard,

E. B. Titsworth, Albert Utter, J. Howard Titsworth, William M. Randolph, William H. Smith, Walter G. Smith, Jacob M. Jennings, Charles B. Rogers, Joseph T. Dunham, Lewis T. Dunn, Charles H. Randolph.

In the War with Spain—Dr. Daniel C. Main, Edward M. Tomlinson.

Financial—During the sixty-three years of its history, the church has given, directly through its treasury and indi-



SEVENTH-DAY BAPTIST CHURCH.

rectly by individual members, for church expenses, denominational tract, mission and education work, charities, such local enterprises as the Plainfield Young Men's Christian Association, Public Library and Muhlenberg Hospital, and other benevolent objects, about \$630,000.

Membership—At organization, in 1838, 57; added by letter, 232; added by baptism, 283; present membership, 231.

#### FIRST M. E. CHURCH.

The first Methodist service in Plainfield is said to have been a prayer meeting, held in the dwelling of a family named Guion, about the year 1823, by a preacher named Hancock. Soon afterward the preacher from the New Providence circuit found his way hither, a society was formed, and Plainfield became one of the regular preaching places on that extensive circuit. In 1826 an unsuccessful endeavor was made to erect a church on Second street (then "Barn" street). For a time the preaching was held in Mr. John Briant's carriage shop. In 1832, Rev. George F. Brown and Rev. J. N. Crane, being then on the circuit, the first Methodist church in Plainfield was erected. It stood on the site of the present edifice, and was a plain, unpainted wooden structure, 30x40 feet, with bare floor and uncushioned benches. The membership at the time was but seventeen. The next year Plainfield was detached from the circuit and constituted a "station," with Rev. James H. McFarland for its appointed pastor. In 1847 Rev. James O. Rogers, being pastor, and the society numbering some ninety souls, the old church was sold, and a new brick meeting-house, 50x65 feet, was built on its site, at a cost of about \$10,000. It was the first pewed church in the con-

ference. In 1850, Rev. W. E. Perry being pastor at that time, a frame dwelling was erected on Madison avenue for a parsonage. The preacher's salary was then \$450, the annual benevolent collection \$111.69, and the debt \$5,400. In 1852 ground for a cemetery was acquired for \$800. The great burden of debt embarrassed the little society until after the war. In 1866, through the efforts of Rev. A. M. Palmer, the amount was subscribed, and during the ministry of Rev. George H. Whitney, his successor, the last dollar was paid. In April, 1869, during the first pastorate of Rev. William Day, the church was greatly beautified, but on the eve of the Sabbath on which it was to be reoccupied it took fire and was burned. It was immediately rebuilt on an enlarged and improved plan, substantially as it is to-day. In 1887 the beautiful and commodious Sunday-school room, known as Vincent Chapel, was added. In 1894 the parsonage was sold, and by a united effort the entire mortgage indebtedness upon the church and chapel property was cleared.

In 1887 the official board initiated measures for the extension of Methodism. Lots were purchased in North Plainfield, and at Monroe avenue and West Fourth street, suitable buildings erected, and Sunday schools organized. In 1893 Grace church, in North Plainfield, was organized, and in December, 1896, Monroe Avenue church, after three years of nominal connection with the present church, was formally separated and organized.

Pastoral Roll—G. F. Brown and J. N. Crane, 1832-3; J. H. McFarland, 1833-4; E. J. Janes, 1834-5; G. S. Wharton, 1835-6; B. Benson, 1836-7; E. Sanders, 1837-8; V. Shepherd, 1838-40; G. F. Brown, 1840-1; A. Gilmore, 1841-2; B. Kelly, 1842-4; R. B. Westbrook, 1844-5; L. R. Dunn, 1845-7; J. O. Rogers, 1847-9; W. E. Perry, 1849-51; T. McCarroll, 1851-2; R. Givin, 1852-4; J. O. Winner, 1854-6; S. W. Hilliard, 1857-8; G. Winsor, 1858-60; J. Atkinson, 1860-2; S. Armstrong, 1862-3; E. A. Day, 1863-4; A. M. Palmer, 1864-6;



FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

G. H. Whitney, 1866-8; William Day, 1868-71; J. R. Bryan, 1871-4; J. L. Hurlbut, 1874-7; William Day, 1877-80; I. H. Stockton, 1880-3; A. H. Tuttle, 1883-6; J. B. VanMeter, 1886-8; C. B. Mitchell, 1888-92; C. R. Barnes, 1893-7; W. C. Snodgrass, 1897.

Officers of the Church—Presiding bishop, Rev. Edward Gayer Andrews, New York City; presiding elder, Rev. George



W. Smith, Plainfield, N. J.; pastor, Rev. W. C. Snodgrass, 610 Central avenue; associate, Rev. George H. Whitney, 828 First place; local preacher, Rev. Orrin W. Snodgrass; superintendent of the Sunday school, James W. Jackson; president of the Epworth League, Robert W. Davis.

#### ALL SOULS' CHURCH.

Prior to 1889 it was found that there were living in this city, mostly unknown to each other, Unitarian people from different parts of the country. In May of that year, on the 12th, the first Unitarian service was held here by Rev. Robert Collyer, of New York, in the church of the Seventh Day Baptists, which was kindly loaned for the occasion. After that date, Rev. D. W. Morehouse, superintendent of churches for the Middle States, held services at No. 17 East Front street, and, on October 13, at No. 4 Second place. At a meeting held in the parlor of the Public Library, April 10, 1889, the First Unitarian Society of Plainfield was organized, and by-laws were adopted and a board of trustees elected, after the new society had been duly incorporated. The board of trustees consisted of Henry B. Wells, president; Hon. Job Male, Charles W. Opdyke, Mrs. David W. Pond, Mrs. Ruth C. Leonard, H. B. Nichols and George D. Patten. Mr. Patten was chosen treasurer. December 1 of the same year, Rev. William P. Tilden, who had been for many years pastor of the New South church in Boston, came, in his beautiful old age, a very St. John among his brethren, to give his benign influence and his paternal blessing to the new movement. He was pastor here from December 1, 1889, to March 1, the following year, and left behind him a gracious memory, to be kept forever green in the hearts of those who knew him. May 5, 1890, Rev. Hobart Clark was called to the pastorate and entered into the relationship June 1, with installation services on June 13. January 27, 1890, a committee was appointed to receive subscriptions for a church edifice. About this time Mr. Job Male presented to the society the lot on Park avenue where the church now stands. On October 13 the society elected a building



ALL SOULS' CHURCH.

committee. A plan for a church building, to be built of stone, was presented to the society May 28, 1891. The church building, a modest and tasteful one, was designed by Mr. O. S. Teale. The building committee being authorized to proceed with the work, ground was broken for the new building October 2, 1891; the corner-stone was laid on November 8, 1891.

Rev. Hobart Clark resigned his pastorate in September, 1896, and on January 19, 1897, Rev. Alfred Chase Nickerson, an old friend of Mr. Clark's, was installed in his stead. Dr.

Samuel A. Eliot, now president of the American Unitarian Society, preached the sermon on this occasion. From the start all seats in this church have been free.

#### THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

In September, 1879, a company of people, formerly members of what had for a short time been called the First Congregational Church of Plainfield, but which had been dissolved by common consent, driven by stress of conviction,



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

entered into a new organization, to which they gave the name, the Congregational Church of Plainfield. The meeting for organization had for its presiding officer Mr. Jacob Kirkner. The first deacons chosen were Dr. Titsworth, J. S. Powlison, A. J. Clarkson and Theodore Mace. The first clerk was B. R. Force and the first trustees were S. C. Rency, Jacob Kirkner and G. W. Rockfellow.

This company went out from their former church home, like Abraham and his household, going forth they knew not whither, but believing, like Abraham, that God called them, that God's promises were for them, that God had a place for them. For a time they were pilgrims and sojourners in the land and had no abiding place. For a year they met in the abandoned second Baptist church, which is now Reform Hall, and for two years in the old Seventh-Day Baptist church, which is now the Whittier School building. But in 1882, the generosity of Mr. Kirkner, who presented a parsonage and a lot for a church building on Seventh street, at the corner of Madison avenue, and the self-sacrificing contributions of all, enabled them to enter into a beautiful home of their own. There they felt that their wanderings were over and that they could worship God and do the Lord's work in their own way.

The pastor of the church for the first four years was Rev. William Manchec. The present pastor, Rev. C. L. Goodrich, came to the church from Yale Seminary in May, 1884. The membership of the church is 278.

The church was organized, as regards its business affairs, to quote from the call for organization, "on a cash basis"; all bills to be paid yearly, no debt to be acquired. This has always been a principle of the church. In the terms of the deed with which the parsonage and lot for the church was presented, the stipulation was made that no mortgage should ever be put upon the property. The church has been supported from the beginning by voluntary contributions. The weekly envelope system is used; no pews are rented, but

sittings are assigned and the people contribute as they feel that they can afford to, stating when they take sittings the amount they intend to give.

This church, like every other Congregational church, gives all its members a voice in the determining of its affairs. The church itself is the governing body; it recognizes no ecclesiastical authority outside of itself. But it recognizes the obligations of fellowship with other Christian bodies. Its creed is formulated by itself and consists simply of a few statements of accepted truths in Scriptural language. It welcomes into its membership all who give evidence of Christian character and are willing to confess Christ as their Master and to assent to the covenant of the church. The Congregational church stands for freedom of faith and liberty of conscience, for the right of individual judgment, for a broad and liberal fellowship, for a regenerate membership and the simple Christian life. Having no peculiar ritual, tenets, or outward forms to contend for, no assumption of authority, or judicial rights to exercise, it has the more energy to devote to the things of the spirit.

#### THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF PLAINFIELD.

The First Baptist church of Plainfield was organized November 5, 1818. The constituent members were from the Baptist churches of Lambtown and Piscataway. The original church edifice was enlarged in 1842. The present building, occupying the site of the old one, was completed in 1869, at a cost of about \$75,000. Jacob F. Randolph was the first pastor. He served the church until his death, which occurred January 18, 1828. His successor was Rev. Daniel T. Hill, father of Dr. David J. Hill, late president of Rochester University and now Assistant Secretary of State at Washington. His pastorate continued until 1839. The Rev. Simeon J. Drake was called in 1839 and remained with the church as pastor until his death, April 13, 1862. The Rev. D. J. Yerkes, D.D., was called in 1863 and has been pastor of the church for nearly thirty-eight years. From the beginning the church has made steady progress. The present membership is eight hundred and seventy-one.

#### ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Prior to 1851 a few Catholics attended a little chapel in Stony Hill, about four miles distant from Plainfield. As time went on, the possibility of building a church for themselves and getting the Archbishop to appoint to them their own pastor was discussed among them.

The discussion ripened into action; one of the members of the congregation, appointed delegate for the rest, went to New York to see Archbishop Hughes, and laid before him the facts of the great distance from Plainfield at which the Stony Hill chapel stood, its incapacity to accommodate the increasing numbers seeking it, even at so much sacrifice, and their ability to support a priest, at least, although as yet church they had none.

Father James S. McDonough was the first pastor of the Plainfield congregation, sent in 1851 by Archbishop Hughes in response to its prayer for consideration. It was much to have secured a priest; a church for Father McDonough to say mass in was beyond the possibilities of his tiny congregation when he came among them.

Out on what is now Somerset street, not far from "the notch," still stands the house of James Verdon. This was the cradle of Plainfield Catholicity. Here Father McDonough gathered his little flock on every alternate Sunday; here was said the first mass within the limits of Plainfield.

Increase in numbers continued steadily in this dawning

parish; Mr. Verdon's house soon became too small, and the barn was the first step in the move toward prosperity, unpromising though it sounds. But there was more space in the big barn than in the house built for human creatures, and



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.

in Mr. Verdon's barn the Plainfield church was sheltered for a time.

It was not long before barn as well as house was outgrown, for there were something like a hundred souls in the little congregation by this time, and they felt they could afford a building a little more like a church. A hall was rented for their use, and this stood in the center of the village.

It was but a short time after this before the erection of a church was discussed by the increasing congregation, and funds for this purpose were raised. The result of the movement was the building now known as the T. A. B. Hall, extended from its first proportions, but in the main the first Catholic church of Plainfield.

The Parish of St. Mary's at this time stretched from Raritan to Westfield, with the pastoral residence in the former town, and until 1868 mass was said in Plainfield only every two weeks.

Father McDonough's stay among his new flock was brief; it was in 1854 he was succeeded by a younger priest, Rev. Daniel J. Fisher, who transferred his residence from Raritan



ST. MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

to Plainfield. Two years later, in 1856, this pastor was succeeded by Father Terence Kiernan. He remained in Plainfield until his death, which occurred suddenly in 1869. His successor was Rev. John Connolly, who was already in too



frail health for the heavy work of the scattered parish, and who was given Father Morris as assistant until the not unexpected death of the pastor a year after his appointment gave the charge to Father Morris.

The appointment of Father Morris to the pastorate brings



SEVENTH STREET FROM GRANT AVENUE.

us to the next step in the march of progress, for it was he who, recognizing the rapid growth of the parish and its insufficient accommodations, began raising funds to build a permanent church. In 1875 the cornerstone of the present fine gothic church was laid.

For five years the work of building was carried on, and at last, on the 8th of September, the Feast of the Nativity of her under whose title it was raised to the glory of God, St. Mary's was dedicated. This was the first great celebration in the progress of the parish, and it was kept with pomp of music from New York, and visiting clergy from both the adjoining States. St. Mary's congregation, looking back on the struggles of three decades, might well rejoice on what had been achieved.

However, though much had been done, more remained to do. Dedication is not consecration. No Catholic church can be solemnly consecrated to the service of God until it is entirely free from debt, because after consecration it cannot be used for any other purpose than that service; it



ST. MARY'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL.

has taken its final vows; is set apart to the end of time, or until it crumbles into dust. Hence this consecration cannot be made until freedom from indebtedness secures its future.

St. Mary's had incurred a heavy debt, and in building it not half of Father Morris' work, so nobly begun, was com-

pleted. His pastorate ended two years after the dedication of the church, in 1882. Two priests, Fathers De Burgh and Calahan, were placed in charge for a few months each until January, 1883, when Father Smyth was sent to Plainfield from Jersey City.

For three months after his appointment Father Smyth's health, broken by hard labor in a difficult parish, would not permit him to assume control of St. Mary's affairs, and a young priest, Father Gillan, acted as pastor until spring, when the Rev. P. E. Smyth began the work so triumphantly culminating this year.

Two years previous to this date, in 1881, the Newark Diocese had been divided, giving Northern New Jersey into the new Episcopal jurisdiction, under the title of the Diocese of Trenton, its diocese seat. Somerset county, in which lie North Plainfield and Dunellen, fell into the latter division of the State, and in being given over to the charge of the Bishop of Trenton these two townships no longer formed part of the Parish of St. Mary's. But the rapid increase in numbers of the large parish still remaining to that church, and the difficult financiering required to bring it successfully into freedom from burdens, set Father Smyth a task that might well have dismayed a stronger man. Without hesitation he set himself to unravelling the problems before him; with quiet persistence he labored, every year recording steady progress, until the result was assured.

The decree of the Council of Baltimore, making religious training an obligatory portion of the education of Catholic children, came to confirm Father Smyth's knowledge of the great need in the parish of the presence, the teaching and the example of the Sisters of Charity, to whom, in the State of New Jersey, is principally entrusted the care of the parochial schools.

In 1888 the fine brick building, St. Mary's school, was built on the corner of Sixth and Liberty streets, opposite the church, and the sisters were introduced into the parish, with results apparent almost at once to the most careless observer. A year later Father Smyth, never strong, in spite of his capacity for work, became so overburdened with the increase of his labors that he was given an assistant.

The first priest to fill this position was Father Flood, who remained but a short time, to be succeeded by Father Stafford, now the capable president of Seton Hall College. After Father Stafford came Father Murphy as assistant at St. Mary's, then Father McCormick, Father Westman and Father McGeary, now acting under Father Smyth in that capacity. Of these, Father Westman also has been raised to the academic chair, being associated with Father Stafford as vice-president of Seton Hall College.

In spite of the heavy expenses laid upon the parish by the erection and maintenance of a large school, the debt was reduced steadily, till at last Father Smyth saw the almost hopeless task upon which he entered eighteen years ago accomplished; St. Mary's was free from debt, and ready for its solemn consecration.

The ceremony took place with all due observance on the last Sunday in September, the 30th day of the month, 1900.

Eighteen years of Father Smyth's pastorate have passed: they have seen a struggling church lifted up from the debt that threatened it, seen it freed and consecrated forever to the service of God; have seen the erection of a fine school, the establishment of religious in the parish, the purchase of the house which constitutes the conventional home of these sisters, with their chapel under its roof; have seen the growth of the congregation, and its fidelity under the wise and kindly goodness guiding it, and the rapidly maturing plans, now under way, formed for the establishment of a



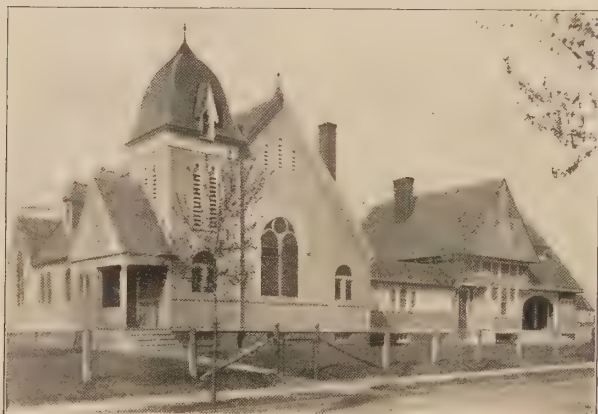
dependent chapel at Netherwood for the accommodation of the Catholics in that portion of the parish, who outnumber now the little congregation to whom Plainfield's first priest was sent at the beginning of the latter half of the century just closed.

#### EAST THIRD STREET MISSION.

This very useful and successful enterprise is just passing its first decade. The beginning was in a tent in 1891. Since then a beautiful chapel has been erected, and the property is free of all worldly debt. This religious work is fostered by the members of the First Baptist church. The mission is well located and serves an excellent purpose. Its support is under the care of the First Baptist church.

#### THE MONROE AVENUE M. E. CHURCH.

The organization of the Monroe Avenue M. E. church dates from the year 1876, when a number of families in Evona united in an effort to secure occasional preaching services, with regular religious instruction for their children. Accom-



MONROE AVENUE M. E. CHURCH.

modations were secured in a grocery store, and a Sunday-school of fifteen members, with Mr. George Angleman as its superintendent, was started.

Irregular preaching was maintained, and the work progressed with varying success until the year 1890, when the trustees of the Plainfield M. E. church purchased two lots at the corner of Monroe avenue and West Fourth street, and erected an attractive building having a seating capacity of about four hundred persons. This was dedicated April 5, 1891, as the Monroe Avenue Mission of Plainfield M. E. church, and, with the Evona school as a nucleus, a new one was formed, with about seventy-five members, under the superintendence of Mr. Walter M. McGee. Arrangements were also made for an evening preaching service.

In December, 1892, a morning preaching service was instituted, the pulpit being supplied by theological students.

In April, 1893, the Rev. Herbert Munson took charge of the pastoral work through his appointment by the Plainfield church as assistant to its pastor. He was succeeded in 1895 by the Rev. W. C. O'Donnell.

In February, 1896, the Epworth house was erected, and became an important addition to the chapel.

At a watch-night service held in Vincent chapel, December 31, 1896, the mission was formally organized as the Monroe

Avenue M. E. church, with the Rev. W. C. O'Donnell as its pastor, and having a membership of 113 members and probationers.

On June 1, 1898, ground was broken for a parsonage, and it was first occupied as such in the following November. Its completion ended any further additions to the buildings, for on December 6, 1898, Mr. James McGee, the donor of this, as well as all the other church property, passed away to his final rest. In his death the church met an irreparable loss. He was its founder and generous benefactor. To him it owed the possession of property worth \$20,000, wholly free from debt.

No history of this church is complete without a loving reference to his zeal and faithful service as preacher, teacher and adviser. His example and devotedness to the work, which received his best attention, still give additional inspiration to those whose duty it is to carry out the plans he so wisely laid.

On April 1, 1900, the Rev. John McMurray succeeded Dr. O'Donnell as pastor, and he is still acting as such, while Mr. Walter M. McGee retains the office of superintendent of the Sunday-school.

#### MOUNT ZION A. M. E. CHURCH.

After several attempts, the organization of the society of the African Methodist Episcopal church was begun July 26, 1892, and completed August 6, the same year, by Rev. Joseph Fry, with seven members. Rev. J. G. Fry remained but a few months and was succeeded by Rev. Horatio McCoy, who filled out the term. In May, 1893, the mission was recognized by the New Jersey conference, and on May 2, same year, Rev. T. A. V. Henry was appointed to the Plainfield mission, where he succeeded in purchasing the plot of ground on West Fourth street and erected the present chapel. In May, 1895, Rev. James E. Groves was appointed to the charge. He was very successful in increasing the membership of the society. The Rev. Mr. Groves spent four years with this people, after which it was recognized as a station. In April, 1890, Rev. J. W. Cooper was appointed. He labored two years with some success. The society now has fifty members, is well organized and is doing good work for the Saviour.

#### MOUNT OLIVE COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH.

The Mount Olive Baptist church was organized in 1871 by the Rev. John Cary, and consisted of fourteen members. The church grew rapidly and at one time had more than five hundred members. On account of branch churches being organized, the membership fell off, and now numbers three hundred and fourteen.

The church edifice was presented to the congregation by the Home Mission Society, through the influence of the First Baptist church of Plainfield.

Eight pastors have labored with this charge, the average pastoral work of each being about three years.

In 1898, Rev. E. E. Jackson was called to the pastorate. When he began his labors the church had ninety-two members. He succeeded in bringing it up to its present membership, having added two hundred and twenty-two members in three years.

The financial condition of the church is excellent.

#### CALVARY BAPTIST COLORED CHURCH.

This church was organized April 27, 1898, by its present pastor, the Rev. Scott Wallace. At that time the society consisted of twenty-six members, with but eighteen cents in



PHINEAS M. FRENCH.



STEPHEN CAHOONE,  
President of the Y. M. C. A.



the treasury. The present membership numbers three hundred and sixty-seven. A fine stone edifice, costing \$11,000, has been built, on which \$7,500 has been paid. The Sunday school was organized July 28, 1898, with seven scholars. It now has one hundred and fifteen members, and is rapidly increasing.

#### OTHER CHURCHES OF PLAINFIELD.

Among the other churches of Plainfield and North Plainfield, which enjoy a good membership are the First Church of Christ, on Grove street, near Craig place; Fillmore Baptist church (colored), on Fillmore avenue, Rev. J. H. McLean, pastor; Danish Lutheran church, services of which are held in the Young Men's Christian Association building; the Friends' Meeting-House (Hicksite), Watchung avenue and East Third street; and Friends' Meeting-House (orthodox), East Front street, near Washington street.

#### Y. M. C. A.

The aim of the Young Men's Christian Association is to promote in every way possible the highest welfare of the young man. It seeks to develop him spiritually, socially, mentally and physically.

The Bible classes and devotional meetings develop the man spiritually; many have been led into a Christian life through the religious services of the association.

The mental faculties are broadened in the use of the educational classes taught by experienced instructors.

The physical department is conducted in a well-equipped gymnasium, in charge of a competent director.

The commodious building on the corner of East Front street and Watchung avenue is well adapted to carry on this many-sided work for young men. Among its other attractions are a cheerful and well-appointed reading-room, and pleasant rooms for social intercourse. If the young man is out of employment, the association will endeavor to procure work for him; if he wishes it, the association will find for him a boarding-house. In sickness or trouble the young man finds helping hands in the association. If he travels it furnishes him a card which entitles him to privileges in the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the country. When he removes to another city, he will be welcomed by members of the association, who have already been notified of his coming. Such is the general outline of the work of the Young Men's Christian Association.

For the first twenty-seven years of its history the association in Plainfield was hampered by inadequate rooms, but since coming into possession of its building, erected in 1894, a much larger work has been accomplished. It contains, for the use of the association, a large assembly hall, rivalling in beauty any in this section of the country, a reception-room, secretary's office, coatroom, reading-room, library, members' parlor, three classrooms, the rooms for the boys' department, committee-rooms, amusement-room, a small assembly-room, kitchen, janitor's quarters, and, in a wing of the main building, a gymnasium with locker-room, plunge and other baths, and bowling alleys, while in the basement is a wheel-room. On the ground floor are two stores whose rental helps to maintain the work. This building was the result of mature deliberation, having been in contemplation for a number of years before its completion. The movement was inaugurated at a parlor conference held at the residence of Mr. Charles Potter, of West Seventh street, on May 1, 1888. A goodly number of Plainfield's representative men were present at this gathering, when plans were presented and discussed.

Mr. C. W. McCutchen gave a brief history of the association, reviewing its work since the organization, on October 28, 1867. Ex-Mayor Gilbert was the first president, and the formation of the association took place at his home.

Among its founders were Francis E. Marsh, W. P. Humbert, Henry Smith, Charles H. Horton, M. D., J. W. Jackson, A. Wiley, Jr., H. Otis Newman, Alexander Gilbert, C. H. Morehouse, Robert E. Brand, A. F. Campbell, Thomas Y. Bainbridge, R. M. Stelle, E. N. Dunn, W. R. Clarkson and Nelson Runyon.

In February, 1872, by a special act of the Legislature, the association was incorporated.

The following men have served as presidents during its thirty-four years of existence: Alexander Gilbert, A. F. Campbell, C. W. McCutchen, J. W. Jackson, C. E. Tyler, Henry A. McGee, H. R. Munger, H. O. Newman, F. J. Miller, William D. Murray and Stephen Cahoon.

In November, 1894, the building was opened to the public (though not altogether complete), when a large bazaar was given in aid of the furnishing fund by ladies representing the different churches of the city. The executive committee consisted of Mrs. J. K. Myers, Mrs. C. W. McCutchen and Mrs. H. A. McGee. The affair was very successful and the proceeds were used to furnish the building.

A number of bequests have been received by the asso-



YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING.

ciation, which have been thoroughly appreciated; if all wealthy people of our city were familiar with the good work done by the association there would be still others who, when making their wills, would remember the association in this way.

There are two classes of membership in the association: active members are those who are in good standing in evangelical churches; associate members are men of good moral character.

All men are invited to the reading-room (free of cost). It is comfortably furnished, well-lighted, and is supplied with magazines and periodicals, including New York and Plainfield daily papers. A correspondence table is placed in the reception-room for the convenience of those who desire to use it, writing material and stamps may be obtained at the secretary's desk.

The association is one of the delivery stations of the Public Library; books are called for at the association building on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:00 A. M., and delivered on the same day at 5:00 P. M. Books may be left at any time.

The building has been a meeting-place for some of the religious and philanthropic societies.

# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER X.

### THE PLAINFIELD POST OFFICE.

Compiled from the Archives of the Government, and from Local Sources of Information.

The art of expressing ideas by visible signs or characters inscribed on some material, and now called writing, had its origin at least before the year 3000 B. C., for hieroglyphics written in stone are as early as that date.

With the invention of writing there must have been an occasional interchange of written matter, and the conveyance of letters must have had an early history.

It is known that the Assyrian and Persian monarchs, in time of war, had posts at intervals of a day's journey apart, with horses saddled, ready to carry forward despatches of the despot. In the Roman empire swift horses passed imperial edicts from province to province. In the thirteenth century postriders carried government despatches in various countries. When the Spanish invaders entered Peru, in 1527, they found a system of posts in operation, fleetfooted runners carrying peculiarly formed messages.

The earliest posts for the accommodation of the general public, of which there is an authentic record, was under the auspices of the government, and was established between Brussels and Vienna, in 1516. The complete organization of a postal system in England did not take place until 1640.

In 1656 the rates of postage in Great Britain was 2d. for a letter going a distance of 80 miles; 4d. for a letter going 140 miles, and 6d. for a longer distance. In 1685 a penny post was established in London, and from that time on the systems of post-offices have increased throughout the world, multiplying the blessings which come to mankind by rapid methods of intercommunication.

In the English colonies, which afterwards became the United States, a postal system was projected as early as 1692; but it did not get into full operation as an organized system until 1710. By an Act of Parliament of that year the post-master-general of the colonies was "to keep his chief office for letters in New York, and other chief offices at convenient place, or places, in other of her majesty's provinces or colonies in America." The revenue from this system was, for many years, very small.

In 1753 Benjamin Franklin was appointed deputy post-master-general, and was guaranteed the sum of 600 pounds, or \$3,000 per annum, for the salary of himself and his assistant. In 1760 he startled the people of the colonies by proposing to run a stage wagon to carry the mails from Philadelphia to Boston once a week, starting from each city on Monday morning, and reaching the destination on Saturday night. In 1774, while he was in England, he was removed from office.

In 1789 the Constitution of the United States conferred upon Congress the exclusive control of postal matters for all the States, and Congress at once organized the post-office department, and passed the necessary laws for the protection of the mails; establishing the rates of postage, which, from the organization of the department until 1816, were: For a

single letter (one composed of a single sheet of paper), under 40 miles, 8 cents; under 90 miles, 10 cents; under 150 miles, 12½ cents; under 300 miles, 17 cents; under 500 miles, 20 cents; over 500 miles, 25 cents. After 1816 modifications of these rates followed from time to time, the rates being based upon the weight of letters, and including rates for newspapers, pamphlets, etc.

On April 1, 1800, the post-office was established at Plainfield, New Jersey, which before that time had been known by the name of Milltown, being a part of Westfield township, and included in Essex county; before the establishment of the post-office here the few inhabitants had received their letters at the post-office at the nearby village of Scotch Plains.

In the Plainfield Herald, published October 22, 1835, the following facts regarding the town, as it was in the early days, are given:

In the year 1800 there were 155 persons and only 20 houses in the village; in 1820 there were 430 persons and 68 houses; in 1830 there were 700 persons and 102 houses; in 1835 there were 1,030 persons and 138 houses. There were 10 hat manufactories making \$80,000 worth of hats annually; 6 tailoring establishments making garments for the southern and other trade, the cost of labor alone amounting to \$12,000 annually; 1 tailoring establishment having a capital of \$6,000; 6 dry goods stores employing \$21,000 capital; 1 grocery store with \$1,000 capital; 6 shoe stores making yearly \$6,000 worth of boots and shoes; 4 wheelwright shops; 6 blacksmith shops; 2 drug stores; 2 public houses; 1 coppersmith and tinsmith; 1 saddle and harness maker, 1 watchmaker, 1 tanyard, 2 cabinetmakers, 2 grist mills, 1 sawmill, 1 millinery store, 2 master masons, 4 master carpenters, 3 butchers, 1 stone-cutter, 1 printing office, 1 bakery and confectionery, a fire insurance company with a capital of \$18,000, 2 fire-engines, 5 places of public worship: 1 Baptist, 1 Presbyterian, 1 Methodist and 2 Quakers.

There were two seminaries, the Plainfield Seminary and the Plainfield Classical Institute.

There were three physicians and one lawyer.

There was a hat factory within a mile of the village making \$40,000 worth of hat bodies a year.

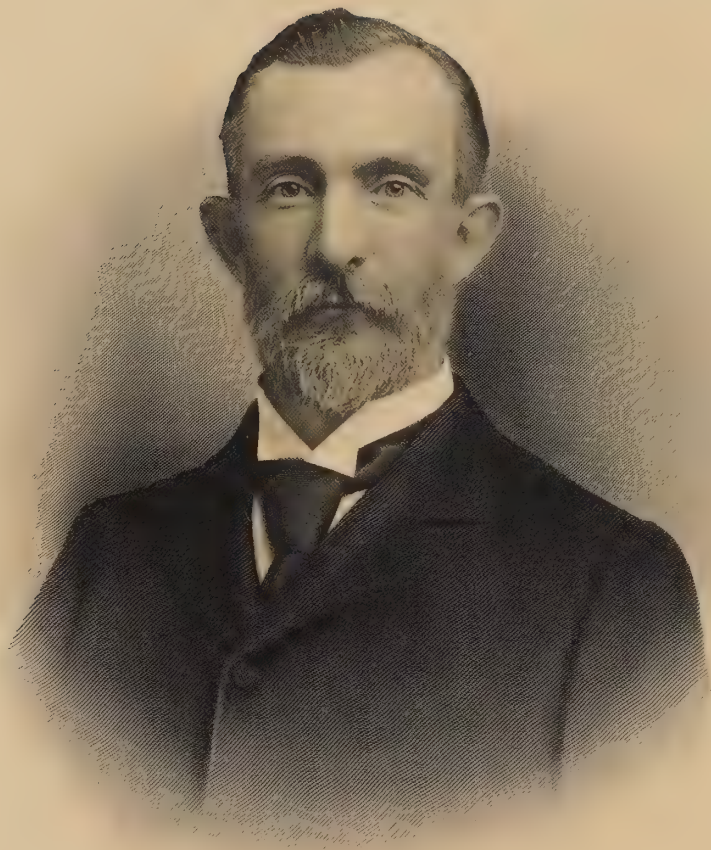
In 1800 there was one store kept by Thomas Nesbit and one school-house in the edge of the forest, near where Richmond street enters Front street, and there was only the Quaker meeting-house.

As late as 1830 there were slaves owned in the town, and these were doubtless counted in the enumeration of the persons dwelling in the village.

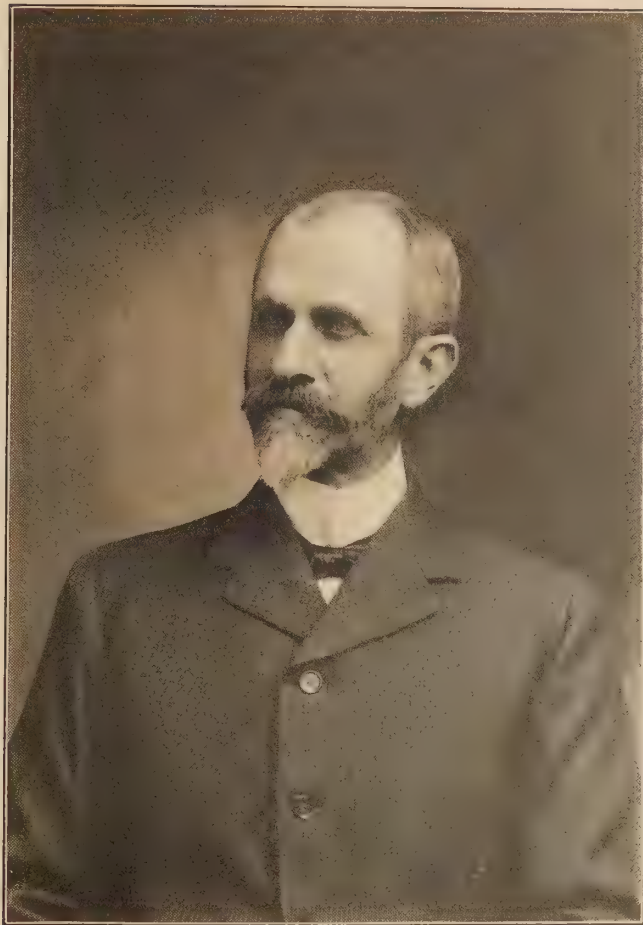
The central figure in the town was the old mill, around which clustered the log houses and frame dwellings, the store and one or two shops. The old mill was first built in 1755 and at first stood under the dam; but was moved to the site







Alvin L. Jenkins



GEORGE WOODHULL ENDICOTT, M. D.





of the mill owned by the late P. M. French, in 1782. The old mill was owned successively by Samuel Webster, Taylor Webster, David F. Randolph, the three brothers, John, Samuel and William Manning, jointly, Randolph Stelle and Elcurius L. Shepard, jointly; then by Miles Swanney and P. M. French, jointly, and in 1842 Mr. French purchased the half-interest by Mr. Swanney and since has been the sole owner.

In 1853 the mill was rebuilt, and in 1870 the raceway was covered by a brick arch.

The mill property at one time comprised a flour and grist mill, a sawmill, a cider-mill, and a distillery, and in connection there was a large hog-yard occupying the space opposite the mill from the driveway to where the bridge now is, in which several hundred hogs were kept.

The original old mill still serves as a barn, its timbers being in very good condition, although 140 years old.

The road from Quibblatown (now New Market) to Scotch Plains, the Mountain road, now Somerset street, and a road to Rahway, beginning at about where Peace street now is, constituted the traveled roads of the village of Plainfield in 1800.

There was no bridge over the brook, and the course of the road to the mountain turned from the present course of Somerset street at the mill towards the dam, where it crossed the stream at a ford located between the dam and where the bridge now is; the road then turned back and followed the course of what is now Somerset street to the mountains. In 1818 there was a stone arch bridge built over the brook at the place where the present bridge is located, and with a driveway through the brook at the side of the bridge, and with the date of building the bridge cut in the stonework, as recalled by living persons.

There was no newspaper published in this vicinity, other than the Commercial Advertiser, of New York, and the Pennsylvania Packet, probably published at Philadelphia, which last-named paper, in 1800, became a daily paper, the first daily paper in the United States. In 1800 there were something like two hundred papers published in the United States; but many of them were issued at long intervals, and the sending of papers through the mails was not common even as late as 1840, and the sending of letters was not as common, as compared with the population, as it is at the present time. Consequently, the post-office was a small affair, having mails only one or twice a week for many years, and persons now living can recollect the post-office as consisting of simply a case three feet square, provided with pigeon holes for the letters, and placed upon a desk within reach of those who might wish to reach for the letters and look them over, without troubling the postmaster to make the search.

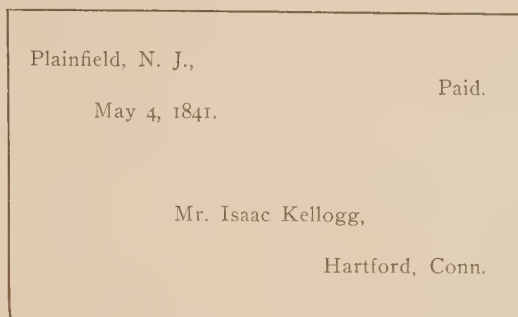
The pay of the second postmaster, who held from 1805 to 1817, is said to have been as small as five dollars a year, and that during his term of office mails were sent and received but twice each week.

There were no postage stamps until 1847, and for some time after they were not in common use. There were no envelopes used in the early days; the letter was written upon a square sheet, folded so that the writing was entirely enclosed, and as thus folded they were sealed with a wafer, or sealing-wax. The writing was done with a pen made from a goose-quill; there was no blotting paper, and sand was poured over the moist ink to absorb it, and then the sand was poured back into a sand-box. A sand-box and a box of wafers were a part of a complete equipment for letter-writing as late as 1860.

The postmaster wrote the name of the place from which a

letter was sent upon the upper left-hand corner, together with the date of sending, and upon the right-hand corner was written "paid," if the postage had been pre-paid, for it was possible to send letters "postage due" until 1855, and have the postage collected from the person receiving the same.

The following shows a letter about as they looked when sent without postage stamps:



The postmaster made a record of each letter sent and received, and a written way bill went with each letter sent for many years, and as late as the days of Lincoln's administration a written way bill accompanied each package of letters, and a record of the packages was kept and forwarded to the department at Washington, quarterly or annually. Even now a printed slip, post-marked, goes with each package.

The mails were carried by the stages before the railroad was completed. In 1820 there was a stage line running daily from the town of Flemington to Elizabethtown, as Elizabeth was then called. This line passed through Somerville, Plainfield and Springfield, and connected with boats at Elizabethtown, the boats leaving at a point on the river near the courthouse and being towed by horses to what is now Elizabethport, but which was then called Elizabethtown Point; from thence it sailed to New York, making the trip in a day if winds were favorable.

In later years two steamboats, the "Waterwitch" and "Cinderella," plied between Elizabethtown Point and New York, and still later the "Red Jacket," a superior boat, was put on, and continued to run until chartered by the government for use in the war of the rebellion. The stage lines also connected at Elizabethtown with stages for Jersey City, via Newark.

The stage horses were changed at Plainfield, and in later years the property was largely owned by Plainfield men. The coaches were large and mounted upon wide leather straps, giving an easy swinging motion to the body of the moving vehicle and making a ride enjoyable.

The mails were carried by the stage lines until 1838, when the railroad was finished to Plainfield; but as the road was not extended beyond Plainfield for several years, it is likely that the mails for places west of here continued to be carried by the stage.

Although the stages ran daily until the railroad was completed, the mails did not go and come daily, as the population and business remained small; persons now living can recall the time when all the letters comprising a mail brought by a stage could be readily held in one hand. With the completion of the railway the population has grown until in 1900 there were 15,369 in Plainfield and 5,009 in North Plainfield, making a total population of 20,378 depending upon Plainfield's post-office; and the growth of the postal system in its connection with Plainfield has been such that there is thrice as much mail received now as there was twelve years ago, as estimated by competent persons.

The following is a list of the Postmasters who have served the people of Plainfield, with the date of the appointment of each:

(1) J. F. Randolph, Adams and Jefferson's administration, commissioned April 1, 1800, served four years; (2) S. Manning, Jefferson's and Madison's administrations, commissioned December 16, 1805, served twelve years; (3) A. M. Osborn, Monroe's and J. Q. Adams's administrations, commissioned December 3, 1817, served ten years; (4) J. Manning, Adams, Jackson's and Van Buren's administrations, commissioned July 6, 1827, served thirteen years; (5) J. W. Craig, Van Buren's, Harrison's and Tyler's administrations, commissioned December 30, 1840, served five years; (6) E. Kirkpatrick, Polk's administration, commissioned July 3, 1845, served four years; (7) L. Craig, Taylor's and Fillmore's administrations, commissioned May 3, 1849, served four years; (8) J. Manning, Pierce's and Buchanan's administrations, commissioned February 19, 1853, served eight years; (9) E. M. Dunn, Lincoln's and Johnson's administrations, commissioned May 28, 1861, served eight years; (10) W. Vail, Grant's, Hayes' and Garfield's administrations, commissioned April 21, 1869, served thirteen years; (11) E. R. Pope, Arthur's administration, commissioned February 13, 1882, served four years; (12) W. L. Force, Cleveland's administration, commissioned May 1, 1886, served four years; (13) E. R. Pope, Harrison's administration, commissioned February 25, 1890, served four years; (14) J. M. Hetfield, Cleveland's administration, commissioned May 11, 1894, served four years; (15) E. H. Bird, McKinley's administration, commissioned May 28, 1898, now serving.

John F. Randolph, the first postmaster, was appointed to the office April 1, 1800, and held the office until December 16, 1805.

He is said to have lived in a house that was located at or near what is at present the corner of Front and Somerset streets; but which were then known, according to old deeds, as "the road from Quibbletown to Scotch Plains" and the "Mountain road," New Market being now the name for what was then called Quibbletown.

It is the tradition that the post-office was kept in the house in which the postmaster lived, which would make its location about where the saloon now is, on the corner of Front and Somerset streets.

Mr. Randolph served under the administrations of both Presidents Adams and Jefferson, the former being what was termed a Federalist, and the last-named being a Democrat-Republican, as the Democratic party was then called.

Samuel Manning, the second postmaster, entered upon the duties of the office December 16, 1805; his term of office was twelve years.

His term of office was under the administrations of Jefferson and two terms of Madison, until December 3, 1817. He is said to have died in office, and that his son, Jacob Manning, afterwards postmaster, and then a mere youth, performed the duties of the office after his death and until a successor was duly appointed.

Samuel Manning was a one-third owner in the historic mill owned by the late P. M. French, in its rebuilt form, having made the purchase of a one-third right in the same at the close of 1797. He also was the proprietor of the tavern which was located where No. 44 West Front street now is, Mr. C. K. Compton's store now occupying the site.

The post-office was in the barroom of this tavern, according to tradition.

During Mr. Manning's term of office, in 1816, the rate of postage was changed from eight cents for forty miles to ten cents for eighty miles.

Aaron M. Osborn, the third postmaster, entered upon the duties of the office December 3, 1817, serving during the two terms of President Monroe, and nearly two years under the administration of John Quincy Adams, or until July 6, 1827, a period of ten years.

Mr. Osborn owned a stage line, and kept a country store at what is now No. 125 West Front street, where the store of J. A. Smith now is; Mr. Osborn lived over the store.

Our respected townsman, Mr. W. C. Ayres, now in his eighty-seventh year, remembers the post-office as kept by Mr. Osborn in this store.

Jacob Manning, the fourth postmaster, was a son of Samuel Manning, of whom mention has been made. He entered upon the duties of the office July 6, 1827, and served until December 30, 1840, thirteen years, holding the office under the administrations of John Quincy Adams, Andrew Jackson and Martin Van Buren.

The post-office was for a time in the tavern where his father had previously kept it, but afterwards it was removed to a small addition, to a house standing where No. 224 West Front street now is, and which later on became the office of Dr. Stillman.

During Mr. Manning's term of office, in 1835, the first newspaper, the Plainfield Herald, was published in Plainfield, by Isaac Cole, and, in 1838, the railroad was completed to Plainfield, and the mail was carried by cars instead of by the stage, as heretofore. Letters were advertised in the newspapers for the first time in September, 1835.

John W. Craig, the fifth postmaster, was a physician, living in North Plainfield, opposite the present residence of the late P. M. French, and where the block owned by Mr. Alex. Thorn now stands.

Dr. Craig had a drug store on the corner of Main and Cherry streets, as Front street and Park avenue were then called, commonly known as Stelle's corner. The post-office was in this store, and consisted of a case, with pigeon holes for the letters, placed upon a desk.

Dr. Craig held the office under the administrations of Harrison and Tyler, during the years from December 30, 1840, to July 3, 1845.

Elias Kirkpatrick, the sixth postmaster, entered upon the duties of his office July 3, 1845, in the store where now stands the Clarkson building, No. 125 East Front street; from there he removed the office to a small store located where is now the entrance to F. C. Langhorne's photograph gallery, No. 107 East Front street, where Mr. Kirkpatrick established a book-store, with Enos W. Runyon as clerk and assistant in the post-office.

He held the office four years under President Polk, from July 3, 1845, to May 3, 1849.

During his term of office the rate of postage on letters was reduced from ten cents for a distance of eighty miles to five cents for any distance under three hundred miles.

Dr. Lewis Craig, the seventh postmaster, was a brother of John W. Craig, and he placed the post-office in the drug store where his brother had formerly had it, at what is now the corner of Front street and Park avenue. He was assisted by our respected townsman, Mr. Alex. Shotwell, then a clerk in the drug store. Dr. Lewis Craig held the office four years, under the administrations of Taylor and of Millard Fillmore, from May 3, 1849, until February 19, 1853.

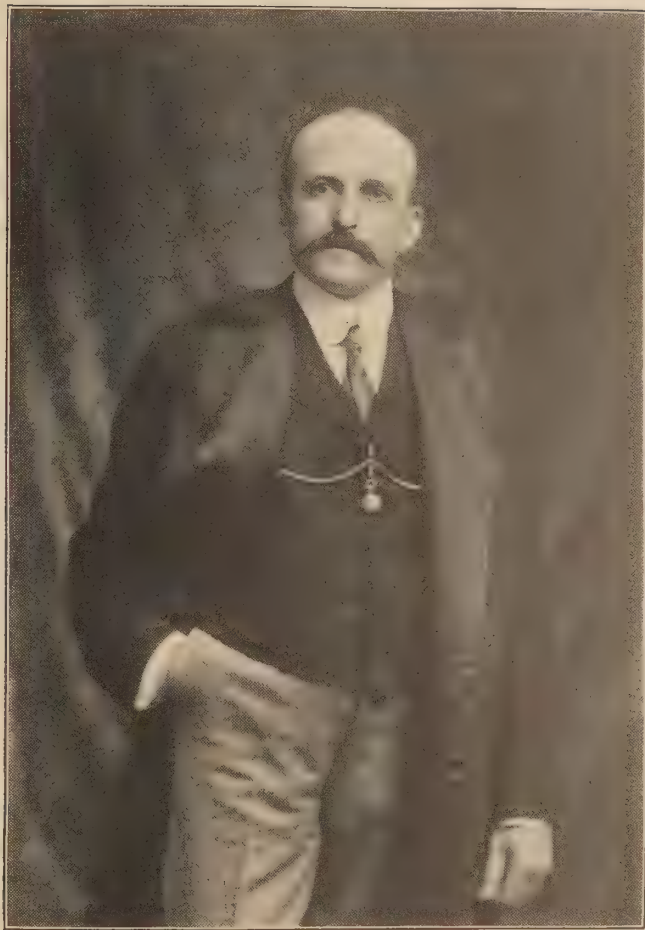
During his term of office the postage on a single letter that weighed one-half an ounce was made three cents, if prepaid; but was five cents if not prepaid; drop letters were rated at one cent and weekly newspapers were allowed to be sent anywhere in the county where they were published, free of postage. Stamped envelopes were first introduced during



DANIEL CORY ADAMS, M.D.







PETER J. ZEGLIO, M.D.





his term of office, in 1861, and in 1851 the rate at which letters could be sent three thousand miles was three cents, if the postage was prepaid.

Jacob Manning, by a second appointment, became the eighth postmaster, entering upon his term of service February 19, 1853, and serving until May 28, 1861, eight years, being under the administrations of Franklin Pierce and of James Buchanan.

He removed the post-office to the corner of Front street and Park avenue, where John J. Kenney now has a store. His son, Samuel Manning, and George Dewey assisted him in the office, and the mail was carried between the post-office and the depot by Frazee Whitehead.

During his term of office it is remembered that rented call boxes had become a feature in the post-office.

During this term of Mr. Manning's officeholding, in 1855, the rate of postage for a letter of one-half an ounce weight, going any distance under three thousand miles, was made three cents, with all letters prepaid.

The mails had now increased to two mails each way every day, and newspapers and periodicals were common among the contents of mail-bags.

Elston M. Dunn, the ninth postmaster, who was appointed May 28, 1861, and served eight years, until April 1, 1869, under the administrations of Lincoln and of Johnson, kept the post-office at first in a small frame building owned by Jacob Manning, and located where P. Casey & Son now have a store at No. 126 West Front street, and to which place Mr. Manning had but recently moved the office.

Mr. C. K. Compton was employed by Mr. Dunn, doing most of the detail work of the office, as Mr. Dunn was acting as assistant to the collector of internal revenue.

There were now two mails each way daily, and the opening of the evening mail was the occasion of a general gathering of the youth of both sexes at the post-office during the exciting times of the war period.

The office was open from 7 A. M. until 9:30 P. M., and the packages of letters at this time were accompanied by a written way bill, and a record of letters kept, requiring considerable time for the opening of mails.

The business of the office had so increased that there were something like two hundred rented call boxes in use during the first four years of Mr. Dunn's term of office.

In 1864 the postal money order system was introduced in the United States, and very soon Plainfield became a money order office.

During the last four years that Mr. Dunn held the office, Mr. William H. Williams devoted a part of his time to the duties of assistant, and Marvin M. Dunham, Walter Elliott and Edward Nelson were employed successively in the office, which had now been moved to the store now No. 126 Park avenue; this removal is said to have taken place after the office had been kept for a time at what is now No. 109 East Front street, where Schned Brothers' store now is.

Wallace Vail, the tenth postmaster, was appointed April 21, 1869, and served until February 13, 1882, thirteen years, being in office under the administrations of Grant, Hayes, and a portion of that of Garfield.

The post-office was located on Park avenue, where the store of B. R. Force, No. 132 Park avenue, now is. Afterwards the office was removed to a small building where the store of W. F. Fulper, No. 207 West Front street, now is.

Mrs. Vail, wife of the postmaster, has the distinction of being the only lady acting as an assistant in Plainfield's post-office; serving during the entire thirteen years and doing the work of the office in an acceptable manner.

The following named persons were employed successively

during the time that Mr. Vail held the office, as helpers in the increasing business: Milford Estel, Edward Nelson, Barton Kline, Stephen Vail, E. A. Gregg, Donaldson Randolph and John Wallace.

In 1874 the rate of registered letters was reduced from fifteen cents to eight cents, and again, in June, 1875, raised to ten cents.

The number of rented call boxes had increased to something like eight hundred, and one hundred lock boxes, and there were now three mails each way, daily.

Jerry Blair, the colored porter, carried the mail between the post-office and the depot on his shoulder, during Mr. Vail's term of office.

Elias R. Pope, the eleventh postmaster, accepted the appointment upon the urgent solicitation of Senator William J. Sewell, having made no application for the place until after his appointment had been made, when the application was filed as a required formality.

When Mr. Pope entered upon the duties of the office, he removed it from a small building on West Front street to what is now No. 115 East Front street, in 1883, and at his own expense fitted up the office, putting in twelve hundred rented call boxes and five hundred lock boxes, besides many other improvements, among which was the addition of a cart for conveying the mails between the post-office and the depot that had heretofore been carried upon the back of a person employed for that purpose.

In 1883 Mr. Pope visited Washington, and brought about a new arrangement which placed the post-office upon a thoroughly business basis by the system which he was enabled to inaugurate, through the potent influence of United States Senator Sewell with the post-office department at Washington. Previously the postmasters had received a salary, and had been left to pay all incidental expenses; but Mr. Pope made an arrangement by which the rent, light and fuel was paid for by the government, as was also the hire of the clerks and employed persons. This transfer of the expenses from the individual to the government resulted in the improvement of the service, and brought the post-office in Plainfield fully up to the post-offices of other cities of like size as Plainfield.

Mr. Pope held the office until May 1, 1886, under the administration of President Arthur, being in office four years.

During his term of service the foreign money order system was instituted in Plainfield, under his direction, and the reduction of postage on letters from three cents to two cents, and on newspapers from two cents to one cent a pound, occurred.

William L. Force, the twelfth postmaster, was appointed May 1, 1886, and held the office under the administration of President Cleveland for four years, until February 25, 1890.

The office was in the building, 115 Front street, known as the Schorb building.

During his term of service street letter-boxes, to the number of about thirty, were placed about the streets, and the important addition of the free delivery system by letter-carriers was instituted, and the post-office in Plainfield became a full-fledged office. By the introduction of the carrier system the number of rented call boxes and lock boxes was considerably diminished.

Elias R. Pope, the thirteenth postmaster, by a second appointment, made February 25, 1900, served under the administration of President Benjamin Harrison for four years, until June 1, 1894.

He removed the post-office from the Schorb building, No. 115 East Front street, to the Clarkson building, No. 127 East Front street.

On May 11, 1894, John M. Hetfield was appointed as the fourteenth postmaster, by President Cleveland.

The post-office was removed from the Clarkson building to the Babcock building and refitted in all of its furnishings under Mr. Hetfield's administration.

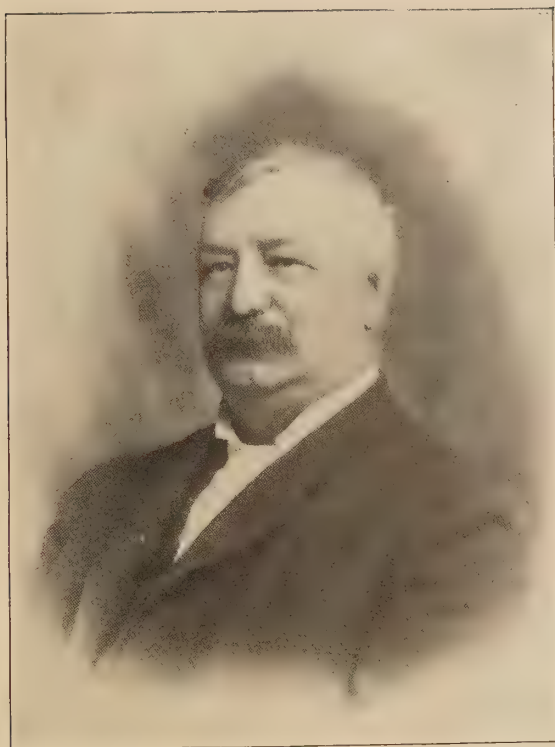
Seventeen new street boxes were added, with three large boxes for papers and packages. Two sub-stations were established for the further convenience of the people, one at Clinton avenue and the other at Netherwood, and a second vehicle added to the delivery system.

ELIAS H. BIRD, the fifteenth postmaster, and now serving, was appointed May 28, 1898, by President McKinley. Since the beginning of his administration the receipts have almost reached \$40,000, placing it in the line of first-class post-offices. Three carriers have been added, making now a total of fifteen. Four deliveries a day are given to the business district, three in the residence section and two in the suburbs. Mail matter is collected from boxes as follows: Business district, at 6, 9, 10:30 o'clock A. M.; 1, 3 and 6 o'clock P. M.; in the resident portion, at 6, 9 and 11 o'clock A. M., and 4 o'clock P. M.; the suburbs at 10 A. M. and 4 P. M. Collections from all districts are made on Sunday

at 4 o'clock P. M. Mr. Bird has greatly improved the present post-office in furnishings and equipment. A special typewriting machine used in the money order department, for making the weekly reports to the Post-office Department, and a postage canceling machine have recently been added. The following is a complete roster of the Plainfield post-office: Elias H. Bird, postmaster; James A. Martin, assistant postmaster and superintendent of carriers; W. R. Sharp, money order clerk; D. C. Clawson, registry and stamp clerk; A. E. Laporte, mailing clerk; E. A. Millard, general utility clerk; Jacob Dunham, janitor. The carriers are: 1, O. R. Pearson; 2, D. J. Shea; 3, C. B. Stephens; 4, John J. Hines; 5, William Demorest; 6, J. W. A. Bauersachs; 7, Charles Glaentzer; 8, E. T. Dunn; 9, E. T. Vanwinkle; 10, P. J. Revelle; 11, Philip Giese; 12, R. H. Loughlin; 13, T. J. Burns; 14, Robert Tingley. The substitutes are: F. H. Clawson, Thomas Meaney, D. J. Macnamara and William H. Thorn. The clerk in charge of Sub-Station No. 90, Somerset street, North Plainfield, is Julius J. Stahl. The high efficiency in the service and management of the Plainfield post-office, as given by Mr. Bird, is not surpassed by any city of its class anywhere in the country.



LA GRANDE AVENUE, EAST FROM WATCHUNG AVENUE.



JOHN T. FRITTS, M. D.





JOSEPH H. BUCHANAN, M.D.



MONROE BUDD LONG, M.D.



PETER BODINE CREGAR, M. D.



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER XI.

### THE PLAINFIELD FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS.

The organization of a fire department in Plainfield dates back to April 9, 1827. At that time a company was organized and called the "Engine Company of Plainfield."

An engine was purchased at New Brunswick for the sum of \$219, and a small one-story house built on a portion of the lot now occupied by the Conklin building, in which the engine was kept. This building was afterwards moved to a lot on East Second street, where the Elkwood building now stands, and subsequently, across the street to a lot now occupied by George Force. It was afterwards sold to the late P. M. French, who moved it to the rear of his property on Somerset street, where it still stands.

The following is a list of the members composing the first fire company:

Ira F. Randolph, Ely Ayres, Benjamin Stelle, Zachariah Webster, Peter M. Boice, James C. Ayres, Laing Webster,

primitive in their construction. When in use, it was necessary first to fill the tank with water, after which the firemen would work the pump by hand.

In 1858 several citizens held a meeting in L. E. Barkalew's carpenter shop to discuss the subject of protection from fire. Plainfield was growing rapidly, and was entirely without fire protection. Later a meeting was held in John Laing's hall. Among those in attendance were L. E. Barkalew, I. C. Varian, Warren Marsh, Dr. Henry R. Canon, S. Manning, William Bloom, D. W. Dorman, W. Ganno, W. Webster, Richard Barkalew and Washington Marsh. The meeting was called to order by I. C. Varian. A committee was appointed to select a name for the new organization. It was decided to call the new company Gazelle Engine, No. 1. A committee composed of G. W. Dorman, W. Marsh, I. C. Varian, W. Ganno, Samuel Manning and W. Webster was appointed to purchase an engine. A machine costing \$900 was purchased. This engine is still in good repair, and is now in possession of the Exempt Firemen Association of Plainfield.

Shortly after the organization of the Gazelle Engine Company a law was enacted creating a fire district and authorizing the election of fire commissioners, with power to levy a fire tax. The fire district embraced a portion of what is now the City of Plainfield and the Borough of North Plainfield. A brick engine house was built on Cherry street (now Park avenue), where the Hetfield building now stands. Samuel Manning was appointed a committee of one to purchase a fire bell; he found an old ship's bell in New York and purchased it. Money was raised by subscription to erect a tower on the engine house, in which the bell was afterwards placed. For many years it was the only fire alarm the department had. The firehouse was afterwards sold to the town, and was used for a police station, and at the request of the common council the old bell was left in the tower so that the police could sound the alarm of fire. The city subsequently sold the building, but neglected to remove the bell. The firemen tried to recover it, but for a time their efforts were fruitless. On a dark night a committee of firemen, composed of A. H. Martin, E. P. Thorn, Daniel Webster, Samuel Johnson and J. B. Hedden, climbed to the roof of the building, secured the bell in the tower, lowered it to the ground and carried it away before the owner of the building discovered his loss.

In 1865 the roll of the Gazelle Engine Company showed that all the members, with the exception of about four, were exempt from further service, and the organization began to decline. The war had just ended, and the town was rapidly filling up with a new class of citizens. A few of the members got together a quorum and elected a number of new members. This instilled new life into the company, and within a short time the membership numbered over fifty. The apparatus of the company at this time consisted of one hand engine, one two-wheeled hose jumper and three hundred feet of hose.

The board of fire commissioners in 1866 was composed of Oliver Runyon, president; Theodore F. French, secretary; J.



FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS (BUILDING NO. 2.)

Nathan Webster, Samuel Steele, James Leonard, Thurston Manning, Jacob Thorn, Caleb Freeman, John Edgar, John H. Cowhart, Samuel Vail, Isaac M. Manwell, Ephraim F. Randolph, Jacob Manning, Simeon T. Randolph, John W. Craig, Robert Anderson, Daniel B. Ayres, Jacob B. Boice, W. W. Parker, Lindlay Vail, Edmund Webster, Joel Wilson, James M. Margin, Nathan Laing, John Stanford, Legis Craig, Elisha Runyon, Eden S. Webster, J. R. Dunn, Jonathan M. Kinsey, Jackson Pound, Abijah Titus, W. S. Webster, Silas B. Deeds, Elias Kirkpatrick, W. Dunn, Cornelius Boice, Ural Cory, W. C. Ayres (still living).

The citizens composing this company were among the most prominent men of the community. This company passed out of existence, as no meetings were ever held after 1832.

In 1836 a new organization was formed, and was known as Harmony Engine Company. An engine similar to the first one was purchased. These engines were not what was commonly known as the suction machines, and were somewhat

Van Winkle, treasurer; John Roselle and P. M. French, directors. At several meetings held by the board the advisability of purchasing a steam fire engine was discussed. In August, 1867, a steamer was purchased by the fire commissioners, and Plainfield Fire Company, No. 2, was organized with twelve members, who were formerly members of Gazelle Engine Company. The officers elected in the new company were T. F. French, foreman; J. Van Winkle, first assistant, and C. M. Vermule, second assistant. The old company at the same time elected Alex. Titsworth, foreman; W. L. Force, first assistant, and T. O. Doane, second assistant.

As there were now two companies, it was necessary to have



ENGINE HOUSE, NO. 1.

a head. The board appointed John Roselle chief, to serve until May 1, 1868.

After a disastrous fire had occurred, which at one time threatened the entire business portion of Plainfield, a number of the leading citizens implored the board of fire commissioners to purchase the second steam fire engine. At the time the request was made the board was out of funds.

A number of citizens, among whom were J. F. Hubbard, E. R. Pope, W. L. Force, Alex. Titsworth, Wallace Vail, D. J. Marshall, Oliver Runyon, P. M. French, J. B. Coward, Alfred Berry, Z. Webster and John W. Murray, agreed to give their joint note for the payment of the second steam engine if the board would purchase it. The generous offer was accepted, and the steamer was ordered. A year later the board refunded the money to these gentlemen.

The hand engine of the old company was sent over to North Plainfield, and a company organized there under the name of Warren, No. 3. In 1877 this company purchased a second-hand steamer. This engine is still doing good service in the borough.

In 1877, Zephyr Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, was organized, and two years later Alert Hose Company, No. 1, came into existence.

In 1887 a refusal on the part of a citizen to pay the fire tax, on the ground that it was illegally levied, brought about the disruption of the department. After a legal battle in the lower courts, the matter was carried to the Supreme Court, where the legality of the tax was finally decided in favor of the complainant.

After the decision of the Supreme Court the city took possession of the department property and assumed debts amount-

ing to about \$8,000. The firehouse on Somerset street, with steamer, hose cart and about 1,000 feet of hose, was sold to the Borough of North Plainfield.

In 1888, at the organization of the new city council, an ordinance was passed, on April 2 of that year, for the establishment of a new fire department. It was approved June 5, when J. B. Dumont, E. N. Erickson and J. K. Myers were appointed committee on fire and buildings. T. O. Doane was appointed chief; Eugene A. Laine first assistant, and Thomas J. Lyness second assistant.

In 1890 the Gamewell telegraph fire alarm system was installed, with thirteen boxes distributed in various parts of the city; the number has now been increased to thirty-eight boxes. During the same year the common council purchased six horses and employed permanent drivers. The number of horses has since been increased to twelve, ten of which are owned by the city, two being hired.

In 1892 the city entered into a contract with the water company to supply the department with water for fire purposes. Two hundred and one hydrants were placed in service, with a pressure averaging about seventy-four pounds.

In 1893 engine house No. 2 was sold and the present headquarters building erected, being one of the most complete in its appointments of any in the State of New Jersey. In 1898 an engine house was built on West Fourth street, in the west end of the city, where a hose wagon and truck were placed.

In 1899 all the members in the department were exempt; two of them had served for thirty-four years, all of them for seven, and several for ten and sixteen years. There was at this time nearly five hundred exempt firemen in the city; the



EAST FRONT STREET, NEAR BERCKMAN.

greater portion of them still doing active service desired to resign. It was a question of taking in a number of new volunteers or changing the department to a call system. The committee on fire and buildings, composed of B. F. Coriell, G. P. Mellick and James F. Buckle, acting upon the advice of the board of engineers, drew up an ordinance creating a fire department, part of which was to be full paid and part on call. The council approved, and Mayor Rockfellow signed the ordinance May 1, 1899. The new system was inaugurated, with one chief, two assistant engineers (one on call), ten full paid men and twenty-four call men. The department to-day is one of the best in the State.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS.

The manual force of the department consists of forty-one officers and men, divided as follows: 1 chief; 2 assistant engineers (one on call); 1 veterinary surgeon; 5 drivers of ap-



paratus; 1 tillerman; 1 driver of chief's wagon; 5 hose and pipe men; 4 foremen on call; 20 privates on call.

#### HOUSES.

The city now owns and occupies three engine houses. The headquarters building, No. 2, at Nos. 147, 149, 151 East Second street, is occupied by Hose Company No. 2, Hook and Ladder Company No. 1, Chemical Engine No. 1 and the chief's wagon and supply wagon. The chief's office is located in this building. The engine house at Nos. 208, 210, 212 West Second street is occupied by Hose Company No. 1 and Steamer No. 1. The house No. 730 and 732 West Fourth street is occupied by Hose Company No. 3 and the spare truck.

#### APPARATUS.

The following apparatus is in service in the department: 1 third size double-pump Amoskeag steamer, 600 gallons' capacity; 1 Hays Ariel turntable truck, 65-foot extension ladder; 3 hose wagons; 1 double sixty-gallon, horizontal-tank Holloway chemical engine; 8 three-gallon Holloway hand extinguishers; 1 iron-frame hook and ladder truck on call; 1 exercise and supply wagon; 1 chief's wagon, new; 1 chief's wagon, old.

#### HOSE.

There is in use five thousand seven hundred feet of hose.

#### HORSES.

Twelve horses are in use in the department, ten of which

millions of gallons capacity. There are two reservoirs—one at the pumping station, of five hundred thousand gallons, and one on the side of the mountain, at the head of Somerset street, of nine hundred thousand gallons' capacity. The hydrants will average about seventy-four pounds' pressure throughout the city, with the exception of a few at Netherwood Heights, which average about forty pounds. There are sixteen fire wells and two brooks; Green Brook, running from northeast to southwest the entire length of the city, and Cedar Brook, running nearly south through a portion of the center of the city. Some parts of these brooks are available during the entire year, the balance a portion of the year.



HOSE COMPANY, NO. 3.

Following is a correct list of all the chiefs and assistants from 1867 to 1901, inclusive:

- In 1867 John Roselle was appointed the first chief.  
 1868—Theodore French, chief; William H. Voorhees, first assistant; Thomas Royle, second assistant.  
 1869—James G. Frazer, chief; William H. Voorhees, first assistant; Charles M. Vermule, second assistant.  
 1870—Jeremiah H. Van Winkle, chief; Isaac Brokaw, first assistant; T. O. Doane, second assistant.  
 1871—William H. Voorhees, chief; T. O. Doane, first assistant; Harry Fuller, second assistant.  
 1872—William H. Voorhees, chief; James H. Smith, first assistant; John Cass, second assistant.  
 1873—William H. Voorhees, chief; James H. Smith, first assistant; J. Wesley Adams, second assistant.  
 1874—William H. Voorhees, chief; John Chandler, first assistant; J. Wesley Adams, second assistant.  
 1875—John Chandler, chief; J. Wesley Adams, first assistant; J. H. Smith, second assistant.  
 1876—T. O. Doane, chief; Jacob Kriney, first assistant; B. F. Corriell, second assistant.  
 1877—T. O. Doane, chief; Jacob Kriney, first assistant, B. F. Corriell, second assistant.  
 1878—B. F. Corriell, chief; Stephen C. Ryder, first assistant; A. L. Carney, second assistant.  
 1879—T. O. Doane, chief; A. L. Carney, first assistant; James G. Van Winkle, second assistant.  
 1880—William H. Voorhees, chief; James G. Van Winkle, first assistant; F. W. Vail, second assistant.  
 1881—F. W. Vail, chief; George Kesselring, first assistant; Stephen Davis, second assistant.



BELVEDERE AVENUE, FROM NETHERWOOD STATION.

are owned by the city. The two used for the steamer are hired.

#### FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

The fire alarm telegraph consists of 1 twelve-inch steam gong located at electric light station; 4 fifteen-inch house gongs, one located at pumping station; 4 six-inch mechanical tappers; 2 Hollenbeck indicators; 2 galvanometers; 70 gravity cells in battery; 38 fire alarm boxes.

#### WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for fire purposes consists of 296 hydrants, —twenty four-way and 272 two-way. The pumping station is located in the eastern end of the city, east of Netherwood avenue. The water is drawn from twenty-four artesian wells; there are two pumps—one of three millions and one of two





THADDEUS OSBORN DOANE,  
Chief Engineer Fire Department.

- 1882—F. W. Vail, chief; Stephen Davis, first assistant; William L. Wright, second assistant.  
 1883—A. L. Carney, chief; William L. Wright, first assistant; H. M. Stockton, second assistant.  
 1884—A. L. Carney, chief; Charles H. Smith, first assistant; Auguste Saltzman, second assistant.  
 1885—A. D. Jennings, chief; Auguste Saltzman, first assistant; J. Erwin Waters, second assistant.  
 1886—Auguste Saltzman, chief; J. Erwin Waters, first assistant; Thomas J. Lyness, second assistant.  
 1887—J. Erwin Waters, chief; Thomas J. Lyness, first assistant; Michael R. Flynn, second assistant.  
 1888—T. O. Doane, chief; Eugene A. Laine, first assistant; T. J. Lyness, second assistant.  
 1889-90—T. O. Doane, chief; Eugene A. Laine, first assistant; James A. Martin, second assistant.  
 1891—T. O. Doane, chief; J. Erwin Waters, first assistant; John W. Murray, Jr., second assistant.  
 1892 to August 1, 1898—T. O. Doane, chief; James A. Martin, first assistant; John W. Murray, Jr., second assistant.  
 1898 to May, 1901—T. O. Doane, chief; John W. Murray, Jr., first assistant; A. D. Jennings, second assistant.

THADDEUS OSBORN DOANE was born in Nova Scotia, May 3, 1844, and is a son of Samuel Osborn and Sarah (Bagot) Doane. His parents were married on Long Island in 1836 and the father was a builder by occupation. In 1846 he removed with his family to Brooklyn, and ten years later took up his residence in Union county, N. J. He was a descendant of Deacon John Doane, one of the Pilgrim Fathers, who came to New England on the "Relief." The subject of this sketch was a child of two years when he accompanied his parents to Brooklyn. He obtained his education in the schools of that place and came with his

family to Union county in 1856. A location was made two miles east of Plainfield, and he lived on the farm, assisting in its cultivation and development. After the inauguration of the Civil War, he responded to the country's call for troops and joined the Union army. He enlisted August 16, 1862, became a private in the Eleventh New Jersey Infantry and went to the front, where he at once entered into active service. He was wounded at the battle of Chancellorsville and again at the hotly contested engagement at Gettysburg. He was afterward transferred to the Seventieth Veteran Reserve Corps, with which he served until the close of the war, when he was discharged, as sergeant, in July, 1865. On returning to the North, Mr. Doane found that his family had taken up their residence in the city of Plainfield, and there he has since made his home. For twenty years past he has been identified with the building interests, and his efficient workmanship, his straightforward business methods and his determination have brought to him signal success. In October, 1868, in the old Scotch Plains church, he was married to Miss Abbie E. C. F. Randolphe. They have two sons, Thaddeus J. F. and Henry Kinch. Mrs. Doane and her sons are members of the Park Avenue Baptist church, and with them Mr. Doane attends the services and contributes to the support of the church. He holds a membership in Jerusalem Lodge, F. & A. M., and in Post No. 73, G. A. R. His political support is given to the Republican party, and he staunchly advocates its principles. Mr. Doane has never held public office, save in connection with the fire department. From his earliest boyhood fires have had a great attraction for him. In his youth he would run from home to every fire in the locality, although he knew full well that punishment awaited him on his return. After attaining his majority he became connected with the Fire Department, in November, 1865, find-



PATRICK S. KIELY,  
Chief of Police.



JACKSON BUILDING,  
Corner of West Front Street and Madison Avenue.

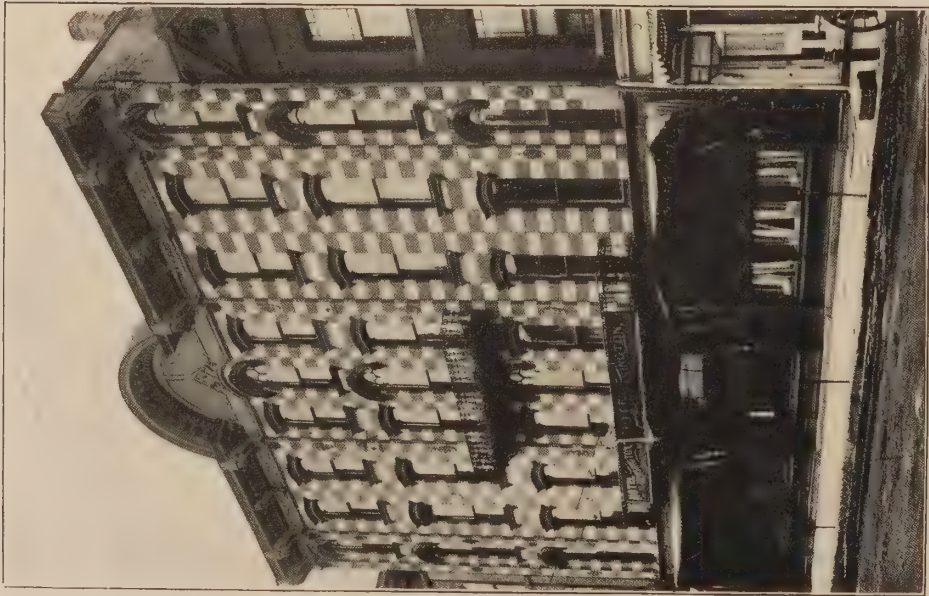


CLOTHING HOUSE OF SCHWED BROTHERS,  
105 to 109 East Front Street.

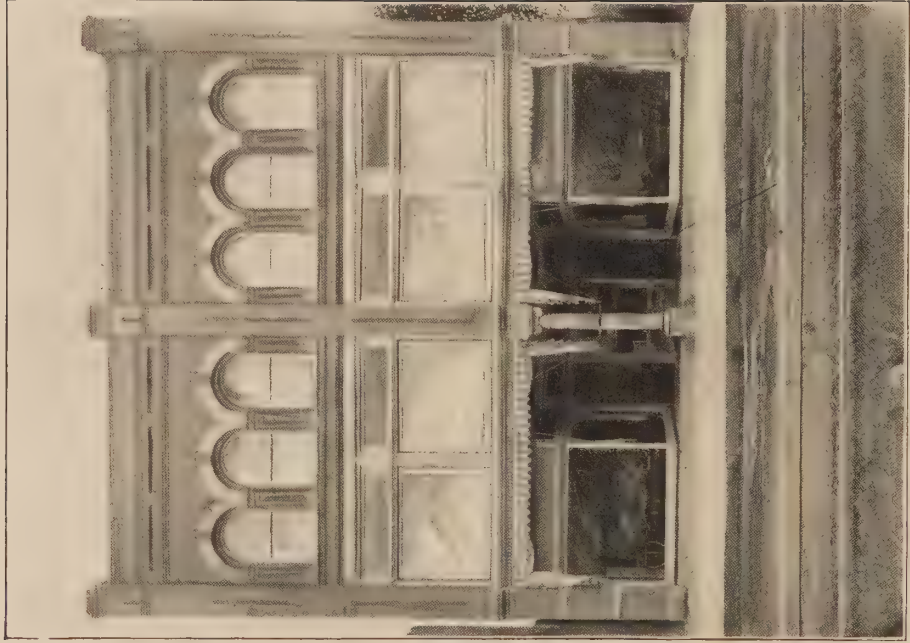




FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING,  
111-113 East Front Street.



HOTEL KENSINGTON,  
John A. Staats, Proprietor.



FURNITURE ESTABLISHMENT OF POWLISON &  
JONES, 149-151 E.

ing an interesting excitement battling with the destructive element. In 1870 he became second assistant engineer; the following year was made first assistant engineer, and in 1876, 1877 and 1879 was chief engineer. He was appointed chief engineer by Mayor Mall in 1888 and has held the office continuously since. In February, 1896, he was appointed inspector of buildings and has since occupied that position. He is deeply interested in the welfare of the city which has so long been his home, and lends an active co-operation in all movements tending to its growth and advancement.

#### THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The Plainfield police department is a well-organized, well-managed and effective portion of the city government. The officers of the department are chosen for their fitness and demonstrated worth.

The roster of the force consists of the chief, one captain, a sergeant, two roundsmen and thirteen patrolmen, making a total of eighteen men of the regular force, besides a number of "specials," if necessity should require their services.

PATRICK S. KIELY, chief of the Plainfield Police Department, was born in the town of Fermoy, County Cork, Ireland, March 25, 1863, being the son of Michael and Bridget (Hayes) Kiely, both of whom are still living and now reside in Plainfield, where they located when first coming to America, twenty-two years ago. Eleven years ago Mr. Kiely became a member of the Plainfield Police Department as a patrolman. After serving for seven years in that capacity, he was promoted to a sergeant. On account of his high efficiency as an officer, he was, on July 1, 1900, made chief of the department, succeeding the late George W. Grant. Since his promotion to the latter position, that branch of the city government has been greatly improved. Chief Kiely is a member of Central Lodge, A. O. U. W.; the Knights of Columbus, Improved Order of Red Men, and of St. Mary's church. He has been twice married and has two children, Abigail and Daniel Kiely. Chief Kiely is popular with all classes, irrespective of religious creed or political principles. He has always been a conscientious, painstaking officer and his promotions from the beginning have been justly earned.



WEST END PARK (WEST FRONT STREET.)



# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER XII.

TRANSPORTATION—BANKS—PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY—MUHLENBERG HOSPITAL—LIGHTING—  
PLAINFIELD WATER SUPPLY COMPANY.

### THE CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW JERSEY.

The Easton & Amboy railroad was built from Elizabethport to Plainfield in 1837. Passengers for New York would be transferred to the "Red Jacket," a small steamer plying between New York and Elizabethport.

In 1843 the road was extended to Bound Brook, and later, in 1849, to Somerville. A combination train, consisting of a passenger coach, freight and a flat car, made one trip daily, starting from Somerville in the morning and returning in the evening. It was run on no schedule time, and the station agent would warn passengers of the approach of the train by ringing a bell at the depot. The bell used for this purpose was one formerly owned by the old Plainfield fire department.

In 1856 the road was extended to Phillipsburg and Easton, and in 1864 to Trenton and Philadelphia.

In 1852 the telegraph was installed along the line, but was not in successful operation until two years later.

In 1874 the tracks through Plainfield were elevated, and the first train passed over on December 8 of that year. In 1879 there were eleven trains each way scheduled to stop at Plainfield. Now there are forty-three trains going east and forty-five west daily that stop at the North Avenue station.

The Central Railroad of New Jersey has four stations within the corporate limits of Plainfield. These are at Grant avenue, Clinton avenue, North avenue and Netherwood avenue.

Plainfield passenger traffic is the largest of any of the cities along the line of this railway. Express trains make the run between this city and New York in forty-five minutes.

### LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.

A. C. Packer constructed what was known as the "Packer Road," from Bound Brook to Perth Amboy, in 1871. This road had a local station at South Plainfield. In 1879 the road became a part of the Lehigh Valley system. In 1887 this company built a line from South Plainfield to Jersey City. Most of the express trains of this road stop at South Plainfield, and passengers are transferred to Plainfield by omnibus.

### THE TROLLEY LINES.

The Plainfield Trolley company has lines connected with all parts of Plainfield. The Elizabeth, Plainfield and Central Traction Company connect with all towns along the line of the Central Railroad of New Jersey as far east as Elizabeth, and the Brunswick Traction Company connects at Dunellen with New Brunswick and all towns along the Central road west of Raritan.

### BANKS.

The First National Bank of Plainfield was incorporated in 1863, with a capital of \$200,000. It is one of the most substantial financial institutions in the State, and is located in its own building at Nos. 111 and 113 East Front street. The

officers of the bank are J. W. Johnson, president; J. A. Smith, vice-president; F. S. Runyon, cashier; D. M. Runyon, assistant cashier. The board of directors are Edwin S. Hooley, J. A. Hubbard, W. R. Codington, J. W. Johnston, W. M. Stillman, J. A. Smith, R. M. Stelle, P. M. French, F. S. Runyon.

### THE CITY NATIONAL BANK.

The City National Bank of Plainfield was incorporated in 1875, with a capital of \$150,000. It is located at the corner of Park avenue and Front street. The officers are Charles Hyde, president; J. F. Hubbard, vice-president; W. F. Arnold, cashier. The board of directors are Charles Hyde, J. F. Hubbard, James T. Closson, H. G. Runkle, Walter Scott, W. F. Arnold, J. K. Myers, J. F. MacDonald, J. B. Coward.

### THE DIME SAVINGS INSTITUTION.

This institution was incorporated in April, 1868. J. F. Hubbard is president; George W. Rockfellow, vice-president; J. C. Pope, secretary and treasurer; Howard A. Pope, assistant secretary and treasurer.

### PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Plainfield Public Library is one of the most useful and best equipped in the State. It was organized in 1881. In 1886, at the instance of the late A. C. Baldwin, who was the first president, the present building at the corner of Park avenue and Eighth street was erected. The late Job Male agreed to donate the land and building, provided the sum of \$20,000.00 was raised for the purchase of books and pictures. This was readily accomplished by the public-spirited citizens of Plainfield, and to-day the library contains about 15,000 volumes.

The Babcock Scientific Library, being a bequest of the late George H. Babcock, who left the sum of \$10,000.00 for its purchase, besides a handsome annuity for its maintenance, is one of the most complete of its kind in the country.

The art collection of the library manifests taste and reflects great credit upon Plainfield's culture.

The library circulates annually about 30,000 volumes.

### MUHLENBERG HOSPITAL.

Through the influence and at the suggestion of the late Dr. Charles H. Hart, Plainfield owes the existence of Muhlenberg Hospital, which was incorporated in 1877. In 1880 the late Job Male donated the site at No. 648 West Third street upon which the present building was erected. The institution is well equipped, and the amount of good that it does is very great. The hospital is unsectarian, and is assisted by donations from public-spirited citizens, besides annual collections from the churches of Plainfield.

A woman's auxiliary board assists in the management of the institution. A new and more commodious building is in contemplation.



NORTH AVENUE STATION, C. R. R. OF N. J.



NEW STATION, NORTH AVENUE, C. R. R. OF N. J.



PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING.



NETHERWOOD STATION, C. R. R. OF N. J.



MUHLENBERG HOSPITAL.



### THE PLAINFIELD GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The Plainfield Gas Company was organized in 1867. The incorporators were the late Phineas M. French, Zachariah



GRANT AVENUE STATION, C. R. R. OF N. J.

Webster and H. G. Lattimer. The first street lamps were installed by the city in 1872. The first house in which gas was used for illuminating purposes was that of Phineas M. French, on Somerset street, North Plainfield. This was on December 12, 1872.

In 1884 the Plainfield Electric Light Company was organized, the incorporators being Phineas M. French, W. H. Moore and Elias R. Pope. The company began business in the building on Somerset street that is known as French's Mill. One thirty and one fifteen-arc dynamos were used. The lighting station was later removed to the corner of Madison avenue and Second street, and in 1889 changed to an incandescent system. Two dynamos, with a power of fifteen hundred lights each, were installed.

In 1889 the Edison Electric Light Company of North Plainfield was organized by Dr. J. H. Cooley, Charles Sebring, Dr.



CLINTON AVENUE STATION, C. R. R. OF N. J.

T. S. Davis and others. This company sold out to the Plainfield Gas and Electric Light Company in 1891.

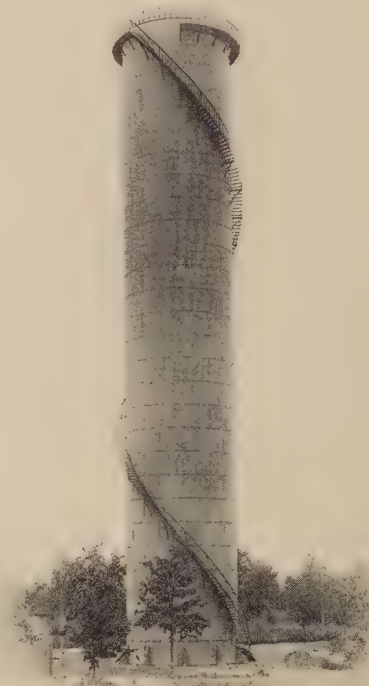
In 1890 the Plainfield Gas and Electric Light Company was incorporated, with a capital of \$200,000; H. G. Runkle, president, and J. C. Pope, secretary.

This company now operates three dynamos—one of five thousand lights, one three thousand and one fifteen hundred. The company furnishes power for the local trolley roads and for many forms of light machinery.

### THE PLAINFIELD WATER SUPPLY COMPANY.

The Plainfield Water Supply Company was incorporated in 1869. It has a capital of \$250,000. Frank Bergen, of Elizabeth, N. J., is president, and Joseph F. Hubbard, of Plainfield, is secretary and treasurer.

The water is drawn from a subterranean river, and is pumped through twenty wells, varying from forty-five to fifty



WATER TOWER.

feet in depth, sunk fifty feet apart for a distance of one thousand feet along the northerly side of the Central Railroad, just east of Netherwood station.

The water is forced up in a tower twenty-five feet in diameter and one hundred and forty feet high. The tower is located on ground twenty-seven feet higher than the business portion of Plainfield, and a uniform pressure is maintained throughout the city. The ordinary pressure is sufficient to throw water over the tallest building in Plainfield.

The water supply is practically inexhaustible. The company furnishes (at very low rates) water to most of the neighboring towns situated along the Central Railroad between Plainfield and Elizabeth.



# History of Plainfield

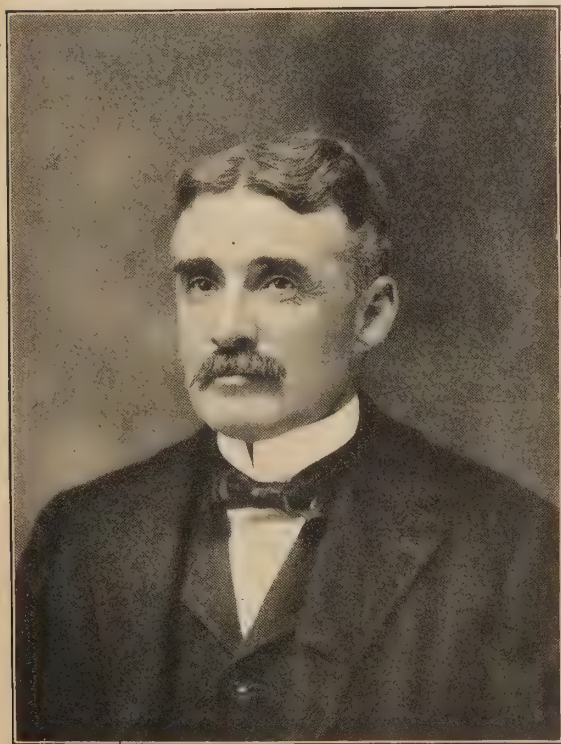
## CHAPTER XIII.

### PLAINFIELD NEWSPAPERS.

Side by side with the general growth of Plainfield from a scattered settlement into a flourishing city has been the development of the newspaper life of the community from a struggling beginning into an exemplification of the most modern methods. Sixty-four years ago the first newspaper was published in Plainfield. Since that time the progress of local journalism has been steady and secure. To-day the city boasts of two up-to-date dailies and three weeklies, each of which fulfils its part in a system of news-gathering which has been given the stamp of approval by a patronage covering nearly every family in Plainfield.

Few homes can be found wherein the daily paper is not given a place. Its advent is awaited each evening with eagerness and its contents are read faithfully by all classes of people. Perhaps the secret of this undoubted indication of successful management lies in the methods employed by the newspapers. By thoroughly covering every portion of

records of the community. Plainfield's papers have stood peculiarly alone among the dailies of the State, but their influence has made itself felt in neighboring places and their



T. W. MORRISON



ALBERT L. FORCE

methods have been extensively imitated during the past few years.

With a modest four-page weekly, Plainfield had its first newspaper in 1835. It was called the Herald and it contained only one page of local matter, the remainder being composite work, printed in New York. This publication enjoyed a run of only a few months; but it paved the way for the foundation of one which existed under different names for sixty-three years. This was the Plainfield Union and General Advertiser, launched in 1837 by a stock company of well-known citizens. J. Overacre was the first editor and manager. Either from mismanagement or lack of agreement among the stockholders, this arrangement lasted only six months. Then, in June of the same year, a controlling interest was purchased by Milton F. Cushing, who became owner and editor. He discarded the latter part of the title of the paper, calling it simply the Plainfield Union. In this form the paper entered upon an existence marked by a

the town, and making a feature of social and personal happenings, the general tone of the papers is such as to make the readers more keenly alive to the value of the daily

steady growth into one of the indispensable features of the Plainfield home.

For thirty-one years the Union maintained its weekly publication, under Mr. Cushing's editorship. In 1868 he sold the business to E. Dean Dow, who assumed control, changing the name of the Central New Jersey Times. Mr. Dow's proprietorship lasted two years. He sold out to Henry L. Niles, of Binghamton, and John Calvin Runyon, who formed a copartnership which existed until 1875, when another change was made. Then William J. Leonard purchased Mr. Niles's interest, becoming the junior partner in the firm of Runyon & Leonard. Under their direction the paper was published for eight years. Another plan was put into operation in 1883 by the formation of a stock company, which purchased

without a daily newspaper. The Evening News, owned and edited by T. W. Morrison, also a Republican, was first issued on June 2, 1884. It had a life of ten years, passing out of existence in November, 1894, in a purchase by F. W. Runyon, who combined it with the Courier under the name of the Courier-News, which is still being published. In connection with the weekly publication of the Central New Jersey Times, Mr. Runyon started the Courier on October 4, 1891. Both papers were Republican in politics and the same editorial policy has been maintained in the consolidated Courier-News.

From the Constitutionalist, a Democratic weekly, founded by William L. and Albert L. Force in 1869, arose the Daily Press, the second of the two papers at present published.



F. E. WHITESIDE.



M. F. ELDERTON



L. S. THOMAS.

#### REPORTING STAFF OF THE PLAINFIELD COURIER NEWS.

the paper and managed and edited it. Former Mayor L. V. F. Randolph was one of the editors. This system endured until September, 1890, when it was ended by the sale of the joint interests of the company to F. W. Runyon, who conducted the Times until January 1, 1900, when publication was suspended.

With over forty years of unbroken record with a weekly newspaper, Plainfield did not enjoy the possession of a daily until 1879. In the spring of that year, Ernest O. Chamberlain issued the first number of a Republican paper, the Daily Bulletin. For four years it ministered essentially to the interests of the political party which was then struggling for a foothold in New Jersey. It suspended in the summer of 1883, and for a year afterwards Plainfield was

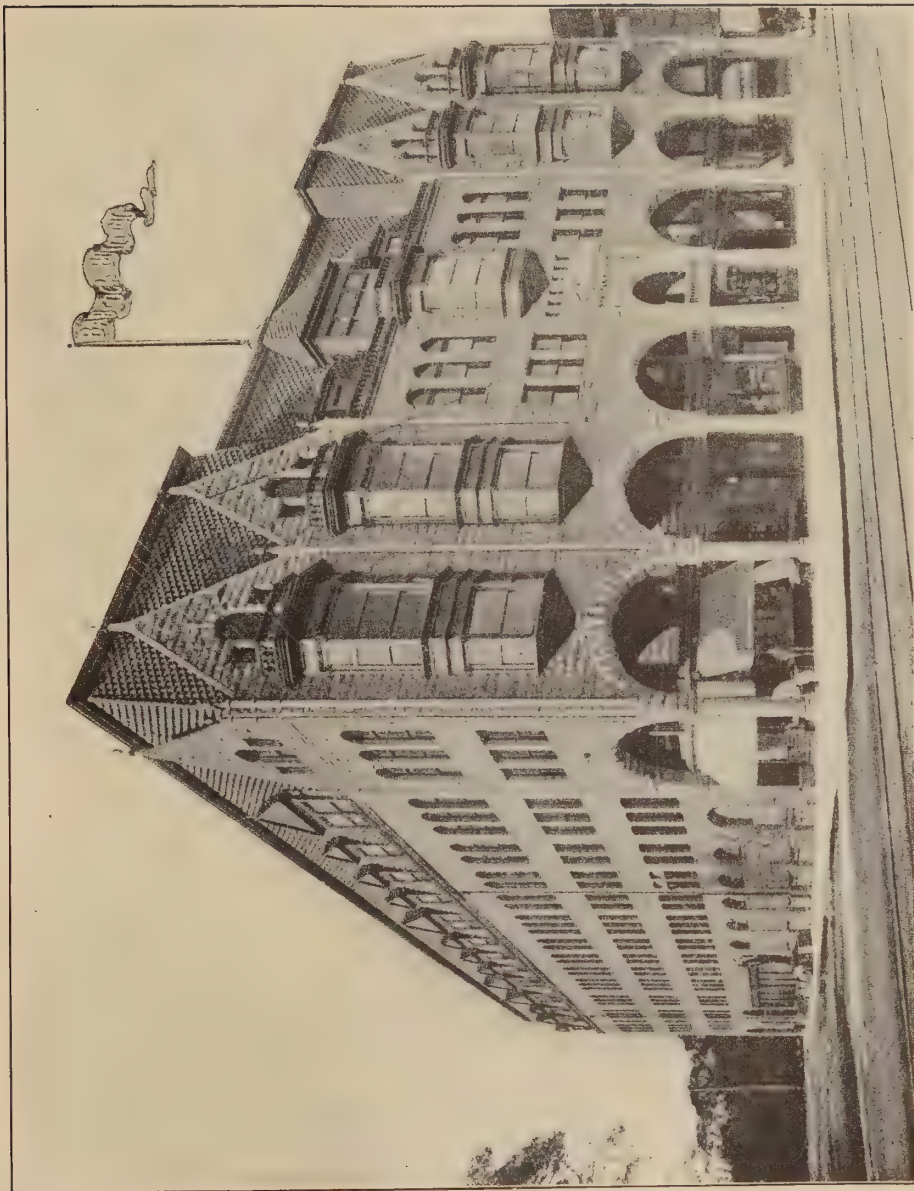
The Press was started on May 10, 1887. In July, 1893, the senior partner died, and since then A. L. Force has conducted both the Constitutionalist and the Press.

Of the other newspapers published at odd times in the history of Plainfield, only two are worthy of special mention. One was the Republican, a weekly issued in the early '70's by Rev. John D. Bagwell, pastor of the Mount Olive Baptist (colored) Church, and the other was the Daily Advertiser, published for about six months during 1881 by William Conkling, David J. Carney and Louis McIntosh. North Plainfield has never had but one paper, the Weekly Review, which was started by H. H. Webb, in March, 1900, as the press representative of the Republicans of the borough. It is still published.



WEST EIGHTH STREET, FROM DIVISION STREET.





THE BABCOCK BUILDING.





HIBBARD, RODMAN. ELY SAFE WORKS, PLAINFIELD, N. J.

## CHAPTER XIV.

### MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

THE ALUMINUM PRESS COMPANY—THE SCOTT PRINTING MACHINE WORKS—THE POTTER PRESS COMPANY—  
THE NILES, BEMENT, POND COMPANY—THE WATCHUNG SILK COMPANY—THE CRESCENT EMBOSSING  
COMPANY—THE HIBBARD, RODMAN, ELY SAFE COMPANY—MANTZ BROTHERS—T. & G.  
MANTZ—S. B. SOWDEN—SCHEPLIN & SCHULTZ—PERRIN, FRÈRES & CO.—  
HAT MANUFACTURING.

#### THE ALUMINUM PRESS COMPANY AND ITS WORKS IN PLAINFIELD.

##### A REVOLUTION IN PRINTING.

Among the recent and most important accessions to the manufacturing industries of Plainfield, the works of the Aluminum Press Company occupy a prominent position and are entitled to special mention.

Although hardly three years have elapsed since this industry was established, it has deservedly won its way to a foremost place in the ranks of the leading enterprises of its kind throughout the country. The fact that its machines are rapidly displacing the older forms imparts to the new concern an importance and significance which can hardly be overestimated. To say that the new method of printing for which these machines are especially designed and constructed is an improvement on the present system of lithographing, which it is rapidly superseding, conveys a very inadequate conception of its far-reaching effects, as it involves, through more economic, more expeditious and simpler methods, a radical revolution in the "art preservative of all arts."

The Aluminum Press Company may, therefore, be properly regarded as the pioneer in a field which is destined eventually to embrace all the departments of printing, a fact to which the leading organ of the trade in France, *L'Imprimerie*, bore emphatic testimony some time ago, when it announced that the discovery of the use and application of aluminum as a surface printing medium had not only "opened a hitherto unknown route to the three distinct branches of engraving, lithography and typography," but "that it affords the means of a *direct transition between the lithographic and typographic methods, thus opening a wholly new way to general printing.*"

The full import of this statement will be realized in contemplating the marvelous progress made in the printing trade of the country within the past twenty years, as shown by the last census of the United States.

As this is a matter of more than ordinary interest affecting one of our greatest industries, a brief reference to the official statistics is particularly appropriate in connection with the future prospects of the new process of printing now known under the distinctive title of "Aluminography."

According to the Census of 1880, the number of printing establishments in the United States was 3,467; the amount of capital invested in the business, \$62,983,704; the number of employees, 58,478; aggregate yearly wages, \$30,531,657; cost of materials, \$32,460,395, and value of output, or product, \$90,789,341. In a brief decade, so marked was the progress, that the enumeration for 1890 showed in nearly

every item a three-fold increase. The reported number of establishments was 16,566; capital, \$195,387,445; employees, 165,227; wages, \$105,083,075; cost of material, \$68,858,915, and value of product, \$275,452,515.

If the increase during the decade terminating with the year 1900 should continue in the same relative proportion, the number of establishments would be 73,854; amount of capital, \$605,701,079; force of employees, 343,672; aggregate wages, \$361,485,778; value of materials, \$145,980,899, and of product, \$826,357,545. How far these estimates may be verified, the report of the Census for 1900 can alone determine.

Such are the prospects of the trade as derived from a reasonable consideration of the progress made within the periods over which the census investigations extended, and in view of the rapid growth of the country, the estimated increase appears to be within the bounds of probability.

The scope of aluminography, when applied over the vast field through the predicted "transition between the lithographic and typographic methods," may, therefore, be well described as a radical revolution, and the "transition," which in this instance is but another name for "revolution," has been rendered not only possible, but certain, through the discovery of the exceedingly valuable properties of aluminum in their application to the work heretofore performed by the lithographic stone. In fact, the substitution of aluminum therefor not only does away with the use of the stone, but it will eventually make surface printing more economical than relief printing, the inevitable result of which will be, as already intimated, to supersede the work heretofore done by the latter method. In a word, the new system is certain to displace the present method, and by its universal adoption, surface printing must become the printing system of the world.

Under the caption of "Lithography and Engraving," the contrast between the Census returns of 1880 and 1890 is no less marked than that presented by the greater printing industry, which comprises all kinds of book, periodical, newspaper, job printing, etc. In the amount of capital invested, the value of the products, etc., lithography has kept pace with typography, as shown by the following summary from the Census returns: In 1890 there were 219 establishments, with a capital of \$15,490,127, 10,500 employees, \$7,147,174 paid in wages, \$6,265,464 cost of material, and \$17,988,157 value of product. In 1880 there were 167 establishments, with a capital of 4,501,825, 4,322 employees, \$2,307,302 paid in wages, \$2,755,264 cost of material, and \$6,912,338 total value of product, showing an increase of 52 establishments, \$10,988,302 in capital, 6,168 in number of employees, \$4,839,872 in wages, \$3,410,200 in cost of material, and \$11,075,819 in value of product.



An estimate based on these figures would indicate, on a reasonable calculation, the following increase at the close of the decade commencing with the year 1890: 290 establishments, \$53,286,036 in capital, 25,945 employees, \$25,236,671 in wages, \$14,247,655 in cost of material, and \$46,769,216 in value of product.

That this estimate is rather under than over the probable prospective increase will be apparent when we consider the rapid inroads which surface printing is now making, and will continue to make, in the field occupied by relief printing.

The Aluminum Press Company is incorporated under the laws of the State of New York, with a capital of \$300,000, divided into \$10 shares. Its stock is non-assessable and it is bonded to the amount of \$200,000, at an interest of six per cent. per annum. The organization of the company consists of the following officers: President, John Mullaly; Vice-President, F. P. Gordon; Treasurer, Philip W. Hall; Secretary, George Wishart; Auditor, Wm. H. Webb; Board of Directors—John Mullaly, Philip W. Hall, George Wishart, James Clark, F. P. Gordon.

The main office of the company is at Hudson street, corner of Spring street, New York City.

The alumographic rotary press, which is manufactured solely by this company, is not only extensively used in the United States, but it has found its way into the European markets, where agencies have been established.

Of the factory in which the presses of the company are made, it can be truly said that it is one of the most prominent features in our rapidly growing manufacturing center.

Although hardly three years have elapsed since the factory for the manufacture of the alumographic rotaries was established, it is now taxed to its utmost capacity to meet the constantly increasing demands of its customers.

The buildings are in full view of the incoming and outgoing trains, and the title of the company, which is displayed in large letters on the front of the main structure, can be read by all who travel by road or rail. Although in point of magnitude, or in ground covered by its various departments, it is surpassed by older concerns, it has the advantage of the latest improvements in all the necessary tools for the manufacture of printing machinery. Being the last in the field, it has had the selection of the most advanced and labor-saving devices, and its plant, as a whole, is, therefore, of the best and most efficient description required in the prosecution of its work.

The main structure comprises the machinery department proper, the engine room, the offices and the designing department, with ample room for the assembling and completion of a large number of presses at the same time. It is compact, strong, well-lighted and constructed on the most approved plan for the manufacture of all descriptions of printing machines, and especially of that particular class of presses required in aluminum printing. In a word, it is not only one of the most thoroughly equipped factories in the United States, but it is furnished, as we have said, with the latest and most improved appliances and machinery.

The work of transportation of the raw material and the delivery of the manufactured articles is greatly facilitated by a switch connecting with the New Jersey Central Railroad. Whenever it is deemed advisable, there is ample space in the unoccupied ground around the works for the construction of additional buildings to meet increased business demands.

In addition to the main building, there is also a foundry, which it has become necessary to enlarge for the casting of cylinders for the largest as well as the smaller grades of presses, part of which had before been done outside, on

account of the limited capacity of this portion of the works. A number of minor structures have been added since the opening of the factory, for the storage of materials of all kinds, and there is ample space on the still unoccupied property for whatever additional buildings may be needed. As the concern is furnished with a powerful electric plant, it can be run, when required, at night, to meet the wants of the trade and to fill orders within a reasonable time, commensurate with the best quality of work.

The most satisfactory guarantee that could be given as to the character of the presses made by the Aluminum Press Company is the fact that they are not only constructed by mechanics who have been selected on account of their proved skill and experience in this special line of work, but the factory itself is under the direction of one of the foremost in the ranks of the master mechanics, Mr. Jerome W. Leary, who, some two years ago, voluntarily resigned the lucrative and responsible position of Superintendent of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Locomotive Works to take charge of the works of the Aluminum Press Company.

Mr. Thomas M. North, who for many years was one of the principal and most successful designers in the Hoe Printing Press Works, is now at the head of the designing department of the Aluminum Press Company, and under his supervision the latest and most improved multi-color machines have been devised, and are now in course of construction.

The success of the new printing medium and its preliminary use on flat-bed and rotary presses, such as they were, have, by exposing the limitations and deficiencies of former machines, led to much-needed alterations and marked improvements, and these have been introduced and constitute the essential features in the alumographic rotaries. To secure the best results, in color printing particularly, certain indispensable changes were necessary on the old styles to meet the most exacting requirements of the highest grades of color-printing, as well as the best quality of commercial work.

The following list of the firms in which the alumographic rotaries are now in successful operation comprises many of the principal lithographic houses in the United States as well as elsewhere: The Milwaukee Litho. and Eng. Co., Milwaukee, Wis.; The J. Ottman Litho. Co., New York; The Sackett & Wilhelms Litho. and Printing Co., New York; The Gray Litho. Co., New York; Trautman, Bailey & Blampy, New York; The Orcutt Company, New York; The Brett Litho. Co., New York; The Stecher Litho. Co., Rochester, N. Y.; The Karle Litho. Co., Rochester, N. Y.; The Rochester Litho. Co., Rochester, N. Y.; The Globe Sign Co., Akron, O.; The Goes Litho. Co., Chicago, Ill.; The Carqueville Litho. Co., Chicago, Ill.; The Buxton & Skinner Stationery Co., St. Louis, Mo.; The Calvert Litho. Co., Detroit Mich.; The National Folding Box and Paper Co., New Haven, Conn.; Munson & Co., New Haven, Conn.; The Forbes Litho. Mfg. Co., Boston, Mass.; The Friedenwald Company, Baltimore, Md.; The Howell Litho. Co., Hamilton, Ont.; The Canada Eng. and Litho. Co., Montreal, Can.; Mardon, Son & Hall, Bristol, Eng.; The Printing Machinery Co., London, Eng.; Compton & Sons Litho. and Ptg. Co., St. Louis, Mo.; Robert Gair, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Mutual Label and Litho. Co., San Francisco, Cal.; Los Angeles Litho. Co., Los Angeles, Cal.; Brooks Bank Note Co., Springfield, Mass.; The Acme Sign Printing Co., Dayton, O.; The Monasch Litho. Co., Minneapolis, Minn.; Seiter & Kappes, New York; E. S. & A. Robinson, Bristol, Eng.; Toyo Insatsu Kabushiki Kuaisha, Kioto, Japan;





PRINTING PRESS WORKS OF WALTER SCOTT & CO.



THE POND MACHINE TOOL COMPANY,

Plainfield, New Jersey.

*Tools for Railway, Locomotive and General Machine Shop Equipments.  
Office and Salesroom, 130 Liberty Street, New York.*

Tucker & Co., Worcester, Eng.; Ben George, London, Eng.; The Hayes Lithographing Co., Buffalo, N. Y.; Rode & Brand, New York.

The high esteem in which the alumographic presses are held by the trade is evinced by the significant fact that in many of the above-named companies three or four of these presses are in operation, while in others such changes are being made in their plants as the condition of their business will admit, with the view of replacing all the old machines and appliances with the new.

In addition to the alumographic rotary, the company have already placed on the market a two-color press, which will be followed by other machines of still higher capacity in multi-color printing.

#### THE SCOTT PRINTING MACHINE WORKS.

This establishment is owned and conducted by Mr. Walter Scott, under the firm name of Walter Scott & Co., and is one of the largest and most enterprising manufacturers of printing machinery in the United States. They make a great variety of standard styles and many special kinds of printing and folding machinery, and every variety of machines connected with printing and lithographing, ranging in size from a small drum cylinder to the stupendous rotary newspaper machines, weighing sixty tons, feeding from four rolls of paper and producing newspapers in book form, folded and counted, at the speed of 100,000 copies per hour. This firm has the reputation of producing only first-class machinery.

The works are situated in Plainfield, N. J., covering an area of five acres. The buildings are of brick and contain a floor space upwards of 90,000 square feet and connected by 1,600 feet of narrow gauge railroad. The yards contain 1,800 feet of standard gauge track, connecting with the Central Railroad of New Jersey. The buildings are equipped with automatic sprinklers and other fire extinguishing appliances. They are lighted by 600 incandescent electric lamps of 16 candle power each and 65 arc lamps of 2,000 candle power each. The steam for power and heat is supplied by boilers of 300 horse power.

The business offices are on the first floor, at the south end. They are large and commodious and well suited for the business.

The draughting rooms are large, well-lighted, and fitted with racks and drawers for the storage of drawings. The drawings for each class and number of machine are kept separately. In this room the machines are designed and drawn out, each piece in the machine being made exactly to a scale usually of one-quarter inch to the foot; some are half and full size. The sheets of drawings are of standard sizes, according to the requirements. Each sheet is traced on transparent muslin, from which blue prints are taken. These prints are pasted on sheets of thin steel, when they are ready for use in the pattern and machine shops.

The pattern shop is equipped with machinery for operating on wood in all its different manipulations. The patterns are smoothly finished and varnished. Each piece is marked with raised letters designating the class and number of machine.

The pattern storage is a three-story building supplied with shelves for the storage of the patterns. The windows are protected by iron shutters. The building is kept at a uniform temperature during the cold and damp winter months. The patterns of one class and number of machine are stored together at the places designated for them.

The foundry is fitted up in the most modern style, with

the most economical and convenient smelting furnaces, drying ovens, and every convenience for the rapid and economical production of castings. A traveling crane operated by power travels over the main area for the purpose of handling the large flasks and castings, and for carrying the molten metal from the cupolas to the moulds which form the castings.

The blacksmith shop is conveniently arranged, with numerous fires and implements for the smiths. It is adjacent to the iron and steel storage racks, where these materials are unloaded from the cars. It contains modern appliances, consisting of massive steam hammers, quick striking power hammers, shears and punches. Here it is just as easy to draw out a six-inch bar of iron as it was for the country blacksmith to make a tack in our boyhood days.

The tool house is used for the manufacture of special tools and appliances to be used in connection with the large machine tools, such as gear cutters, drills, reamers, standard gauges, jigs and terne-plates. The machine tools used for the manufacture of these articles are of the most accurate and expensive kind, and in many cases made by them specially for their work.

The machine shop is larger than any of the others, comprising two rooms, each about 60 feet wide by 400 feet long. The machine tools are so placed that the work progresses from one end to the other; as the castings are brought in from the foundry at one end, the printing machines become finished at the other. The process of shaping the different parts of a printing machine is most interesting, the different machines performing their part, cutting and shaping the iron with wonderful accuracy and rapidity. Overhead traveling cranes are used to place the heavy castings in position in the machine tools.

When the different parts for the presses are machined and finished they are brought by cars on rails to the assembling rooms, where the machines are erected in running order and tested to see that they are perfect. These tests are more exacting than would usually be required in a printing office.

When the machines are finished they are taken down and passed to the polishing, painting and shipping department, where the polished parts which have become rusty by handling are made bright and castings which have been previously smoothed and painted several times are again treated to a fresh coat. They are then boxed and loaded on the cars for their destinations.

#### THE POTTER PRINTING PRESS COMPANY.

This company is engaged in the manufacture of printing presses. The business was established in 1870 by C. Potter, Jr. The plant is located on South Second street, near Grant avenue. The concern employ about 300 hands. The company was incorporated in 1893, with a paid-up capital of \$500,000.

#### THE NILES, BEMENT, POND COMPANY.

One of Plainfield's largest industries is the manufacture of large machine tools for the equipment of car shops and ship-building plants. In 1887 the Pond Machine Tool Company removed their plant from Worcester, Mass., to this city. They purchased a tract of about fourteen acres lying along the Central Railroad and erected a substantial brick factory, 700x100, and foundry, 250x87 feet. They installed a complete plant for the manufacture of all kinds of machine tools. Five electric cranes having a lifting capacity of from ten to twenty-five tons each run the entire length of the factory and foundry. A railroad siding through the center of the factory



allows cars to be drilled to any part of the shop. In 1898 the Niles-Bement-Pond Company was incorporated under the laws of the State of New Jersey and absorbed the Niles, Bement & Pond shops, five in number. Besides the local plant, the company have two shops at Philadelphia, one at Hamilton, Ohio, and one at Hartford, Connecticut. The main office lies in New York City, with branch offices in Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Pittsburg, St. Louis, London, Berlin, Vienna, Paris, Brussels, St. Petersburg and Stockholm. About 5,000 men are employed by the Niles-Bement-Pond Company in their various shops, of which number about 600 work in the Plainfield shop.

During the Spanish-American war the plant in this city manufactured a large number of disappearing gun carriages for the government. These were used for the Atlantic and Pacific coast defence. The local plant also fitted out the United States Armory at Watervliet, N. Y., with a full equipment of machinery for manufacturing 8, 10, 12 and 16 inch guns.

Mr. J. T. MacMurray is the superintendent in charge of the Plainfield plant. Vice-President A. C. Stebbins resides in this city and gives the local branch his personal attention. Some of the largest planers manufactured are made in this city. The work of the company gives employment to a large number of the best skilled mechanics. About \$30,000 is distributed monthly in this city, by this company, in wages.

#### THE WATCHUNG SILK COMPANY.

The Watchung Silk Company was organized in January, 1899, and installed a plant of 40 looms on the second floor of the Schefflin building. They employ about 38 hands and have a payroll of upward of \$400 per week. The first yard of silk to be manufactured in the city was woven in June, 1899, the weekly output of the mill will now equal a band of taffeta 19 inches wide and a mile and a half long.

#### CRESCENT EMBOSSEING COMPANY.

In 1896 Mr. Fred. C. Lounsbury formed the Crescent Embossing Company, a New Jersey corporation. Mr. Lounsbury is the president and general manager. By his untiring efforts the business has been increased until the present building is now inadequate for the needs of their trade. The main building is 26x96 feet, the four floors containing over 10,000 feet of space. New additions will be begun in a short time to accommodate the needs of the growing business. The company employs about 50 hands at the present time.

#### HIBBARD-RODMAN-ELY SAFE COMPANY.

In 1900 the Hibbard-Rodman-Ely Safe Company purchased 1,400 feet of land on South Second street, adjoining the New Jersey Central railroad, and erected thereon a two-story brick factory 80 by 160 feet, with an electric-power plant 30 by 60 feet, for the manufacture of burglar-proof vaults, which plant is now in operation. This company also has a plant at Perth Amboy, at which burglar-proof safes are manufactured. It is the intention of the company to ultimately abandon the Perth Amboy plant and concentrate its operations at Plainfield. This company manufactures safes and vaults of manganese steel, under the Henry D. Hibbard patents. The manganese steel safe and vault are radical departures in safe and vault construction, revolutionizing the methods of burglar-proof safe and vault construction heretofore in vogue, and afford to the banker absolute security against successful burglarious attack. This company is meeting with most flattering success in the introduc-

tion of these safes and vaults, and is already planning an extensive addition to the Plainfield plant, which it finds necessary for its rapidly increasing business. The Hibbard-Rodman-Ely Safe Company was incorporated in New Jersey November 2, 1899, with a capital of \$1,000,000. Its officers are: Alexander C. Humphreys, New York City, president; W. J. Taylor, Bound Brook, N. J., vice-president; Henry D. Hibbard, Plainfield, N. J., second vice-president; Sydney L. Smith, New York City, secretary and assistant treasurer; Walter Gaston, Plainfield, N. J., general manager and treasurer; Samuel A. Ely, New York City, general sales agent; Capt. Samuel Rodman, New York City, engineer of tests. Its directors are: Alexander C. Humphreys, Sidney Dillon Ripley, Sumner A. Ely, Samuel Rodman, Sydney L. Smith, New York City; John Fritz, Bethlehem, Pa.; Irving A. Stearns, Wilkesbarre, Pa.; Robert E. Jennings, Jersey City, N. J.; W. J. Taylor, Bound Brook, N. J.; Henry D. Hibbard, Walter Gaston, Plainfield, N. J. This company bids fair to give employment to a large number of employees, and to become a most important industry of this city.

#### MANTZ BROS.

Mantz Brothers began the manufacture of clothing in Plainfield in 1886. They are located in the Clark building, on West Front street. The firm is composed of Martin, Andrew, Simon and John Mantz. They employ about 50 hands and have a payroll of about \$600 to \$650 weekly.

#### T. & G. MANTZ.

The firm of T. & G. Mantz are engaged in the manufacture of pants. They came to Plainfield in 1889 and are located in the Suydam building, on East Front street. Only cutters are employed in their shop, the work being distributed to Newark and other cities to be made up.

#### S. B. SNOWDEN.

S. B. Sowden has been engaged in the general manufacture of clothing since 1891. During the busy season she employs about 30 hands, and makes a specialty of children's clothing. Her shop is located at No. 153 West Front street.

#### SCHEFFLIN & SCHULTZ.

Schepflin & Schultz, located at No. 130 West Front street, are engaged in the manufacture of clothing for the trade. The business originally was established in 1864 by Christian Schepflin and up to 1894 was one of the most extensive of its kind in the country.

#### PERRIN, FRÈRES & CO.

H. Texier purchased the old "French Mill" in "the Notch" in 1891 and put it in shape for the manufacture of gloves. He carried on the business for himself until 1895, when he was employed by Messrs. Perrin, Frères & Co., of New York, to manufacture a certain quality of glove, which had, up to that time, been made in France. Tariff legislation induced the firm to locate their factory in this country, and Plainfield was selected for one of their plants. Teachers were brought here to instruct girls to make gloves, and the firm were so well pleased with the result that they decided to remove their plant from New York to this city. They are now erecting a three-story brick building, 32x68 feet, on Washington avenue. When their new plant is in full operation about 600 hands will be employed, with a weekly payroll of about \$2,500. The number of employees will be



PERRIN FRÈRES & CIE.

WASHINGTON AVENUE

MANUFACTURERS OF LEATHER GLOVES

FACTORIES:

GRENOBLE, FRANCE  
LA MURE, FRANCE  
PLAINFIELD, N. J.



WHOLESALE DEPOTS:

PARIS  
LONDON—MONTREAL  
NEW YORK





increased as fast as new help can be taught. The art of glovemaking bids fair to become an important industry in Plainfield.

#### HAT MANUFACTURING.

The fact is not generally known that in the early part of the past century Plainfield was an important factor in the manufacture of hats. The first shop was erected by Ira F. Randolph, father of the late George W. F. Randolph, on West Front street, beyond Grant avenue, in 1812. Hats had been manufactured in a number of homes, especially during the winter season, previous to that time. Mr. Randolph's shop was the first to be erected especially for the manufacture of hats, in this city. His example was soon followed by others, and in 1837 there were at last fifteen shops employing over 300 hatters. Most of these shops were located along Green Brook, in order that the water might be used for washing and bleaching the hats. On bleaching days the water of the stream would be almost the color of ink from the dye-stuffs used.

Among the shops engaged in hat manufacturing, besides

Mr. Randolph's, were William McD. Coriell, on Clinton avenue, whose shop is still standing; Ephraim Chandler, Green Brook road; Caleb Freeman, whose shop is still standing in the rear of Dr. Probasco's home on East Front street; Manning Vermule, West Front street, where the Carey barn now stands; James C. Ayres, on Peace street; John H. Coward, father of J. B. Coward, on East Front street, where the home of William M. Runyon now stands; James Leonard, West Front street, near New street; Jarvis B. Ayres, East Front street; Peter B. Stryker, East Front street; John Simpson, East Second street, and Washington and John J. Perrine, on East Front street. About 1850, competition from large Eastern cities, where improved machinery had been installed and cheaper labor could be obtained, began to be seriously felt by the local manufacturers. Ten years later but three shops were in operation, and these with reduced forces. Gradually the hat manufacturing industry drifted to the larger cities, drawing away a large number of the employees who had formerly been engaged in this industry. Those who remained turned their hand to some other trade. The hatting industry, as connected with this city, is now but a recollection of the oldest residents.



CENTRAL AVENUE  
NORTH FROM STELLE AVENUE

# History of Plainfield

## CHAPTER XV.

### BIOGRAPHICAL.

#### ABRAHAM COLES.

Abraham Coles, eminent as a scholar, poet, physician and surgeon, son of Dennis (a descendant from Puritan stock) and Catherine Van Deursen Coles (a descendant of Everardus Bogardus and his noted wife, Anneke Jans), was born at Scotch Plains, N. J., December 26, 1813. His great grandfather, William Cole (written also "Coles," son of James Cole, Jr., and grandson of James Cole, Sr., the first of the family to buy land and settle at the "Scot's Plain," April 23, 1688), married Elizabeth Dennis, of Woodbridge, N. J. (a descendant of Thomas Dennis, who came to Massachusetts with John Winthrop in 1630. James (1744-1812), son of William and Elizabeth ("Betsy Dennis") Cole, married Elizabeth Frazee, and their fourth child was Dennis, the father of Abraham. Ever since the days of William the Conqueror, the Cole, Coles (Coole, Coel, Kool) family have had worthy representatives in England, Scotland, Ireland and Holland—some of the members adding and some omitting the letter "s." The name is said to be derived from Coel, a king of ancient Briton, founder of Colechester and a descendant of Caractacus. It was only a few years subsequent to the memorable voyage of the Mayflower, in 1620, when a member of the Cole family landed at Plymouth. The settlement of the Pilgrims on Cape Cod was soon followed by Puritans on the main coast at Salem in 1628 and 1630. It was in this last decade that James Cole came to Plymouth, and the public records show that he soon became owner of land on the south side of Leyden street. It was in A. D. 1637 that the court granted him seven acres, including his Leyden street lot. Here he lived a lifetime, and around him were his four sons and a daughter. His eldest son was named James, which has been a popular name ever since in the Cole (Coles) family. Near where his and other of the primitive log houses were first built was a bluff of land about twenty feet high, at the foot of which lay "Plymouth Rock." The granite boulder still occupies the same position, and is protected by a canopy of granite, the stepping-stone of the Pilgrims, December 21, 1620. The elevated land is known in history as "Cole's Hill," it having become part of James Cole's property. Here, during the first winter were buried one-half of those who landed from the Mayflower. In Longfellow's "Courtship of Myles Standish," the captain, referring thereto, says:

"Yonder there, on the hill by the sea, lies buried Rose Standish;  
Beautiful rose of love, that bloomed for me by the way-side!  
She was the first to die of all who came in the Mayflower!  
Green above her is growing the field of wheat we have sown there,  
Better to hide from the Indian scouts the graves of our people,  
Lest they should count them and see how many already have perished!"

At first, members of the Coles family, on their migration from New England, settled at Oyster Bay, L. I., as early as 1665-68. Here was a very large and influential branch. Among the taxpayers were Daniel, Robert, Nathaniel and John Coles. They were loyal and patriotic. In the Colonial wars the army roster of 1700-1715 contained the names of



COLE'S HILL.

Captain Robert Coles, Ensign Nathaniel, Privates Benjamin, Caleb, Samuel, Daniel, Joseph and John Coles. Shortly after the purchase of East Jersey, in 1682, by a syndicate of English Quakers, headed by William Penn, there was a large influx of Scotch planters. This was in 1684-5. Of these, several located on the plains under the "Blue Hills," and their settlement has always been known since as "Scotch Plains." In 1688 James Cole (Coles) took out a patent from the proprietors who had recently bought the territory. He took title from them for a tract of 125 acres, which was subsequently largely added to by his descendants. He had two sons, James, Jr., and Joseph. From James Cole, Jr., descended Dennis Coles (1778-1844), "a man of much culture, skilled in mathematics, a polished speaker, a member of the State Legislature and an accomplished writer." He acquired the printer's art with Shepard Kollock and in 1803 established at Newburgh, N. Y., a newspaper, the Recorder of the Times, which was a literary and financial success, continuing so to be under another name as late as 1876. In 1806 he sold out his Newburgh business, and, with his wife, whom he had married in 1802, moved to Scotch Plains, where Abraham was born, as above stated. Abraham was educated by his parents and private tutors. At the age of seventeen, he taught Latin and mathematics in the school of the Rev. Lewis Bond, in Plainfield; afterward studied law in the office of Chief Justice Hornblower,



in Newark; chose medicine and surgery for his vocation in life, graduated at Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, in 1835, and in 1836 established himself in Newark, N. J., for the practice of his profession. In 1842 he married Caroline E. Ackerman, the eldest daughter of Jonathan C. and Maria S. Ackerman, of New Brunswick, N. J. The same year he purchased for his future home, still retained by his family, the brick and stone building, No. 222 Market street, where his two children, Jonathan Ackerman and Emilie S., were born. In 1847 he published, in the Newark Daily Advertiser, his first translation of the Latin hymn, "Dies Iræ," which was extensively copied and made him famous throughout the literary world. In 1848, weighed down with sorrow by reason of the death of his wife, he sailed for Europe, where he remained for nearly two years, studying the Continental languages and meeting professionally and otherwise some of the most eminent people of the time. Returning to Newark, he resumed practice. In 1854 he again visited Europe and on his return his practice soon became largely that of consultation. In 1859 he published in book form his first translation of the "Dies Iræ," with twelve others he had made since 1847. The Atlantic Monthly and the press generally commended the work in the highest terms. In 1865 appeared his translation of the "Stabat Mater Dolorosa," which Dr. Philip Schaff designated as the best in the English language. In 1866 he published "Old Gems in New Settings," and his physiological poem, "The Microcosm," which, as president, he had read before the New Jersey Medical Society at its centennial meeting. "The Evangel" he published in 1874 and "The Light of the World" in 1884. The two were subsequently bound together under the title of "The Life and Teachings of Our Lord." Concerning this the Hon. John Bright, M.P., wrote to Dr. Coles: "I could envy you the learning and industry that has enabled you to produce this remarkable work." Dr. Coles, in his disquisition on the Miracle at Cana, maintains that the keynote to the miracle is creation; that the wine Christ made answered to the wine of nature, "must" (vinum mustum, defined in the standard dictionaries as "the expressed juice of the grape, sweet and unfermented; new wine"), the life-giving wine of the cluster, and not to the wine of art, which is less a making than an unmaking, alcohol being unmade sugar, which men brand poison. He affirms that the integrity of Christ's character alone warrants the belief that the gallons of wine He made contained no alcohol. The Divine Physician, well knowing the subtle nature of the poison and the dangers of an acquired taste, led no one into temptation. In 1887 Dr. Coles published "A New Rendering of the Hebrew Psalms into English verse, with Notes, Critical, Historical and Biographical, including an Historical Sketch of the French, English and Scotch Metrical Versions," which has been highly commended by critics in Europe and America. In addition to the above works, Dr. Coles was the author of many articles on scientific subjects, and his national lyrics and hymns are widely known. His publications passed through several editions and are to be found in nearly all the prominent libraries of Europe and the United States. In 1871 he received from Princeton the degree LL.D. While on a visit with his son and daughter and a sister-in-law in California, he suddenly died, May 3, 1891, from heart complications following an attack of la grippe, at the Hotel del Monte, near Monterey. His body was laid beside that of his wife at New Brunswick, N. J. The grave is designated by a granite monolith, with a bronze medallion life-size portrait, by the artist and sculptor, C. Conrads, of Hartford, Conn., bearing the inscription: "1813—Abraham Coles, A.M., M.D., Ph. D., LL.D.—1891."

JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES, only son of Abraham and Caroline (Ackerman) Coles, was born in Newark, N. J., May 6, 1843; graduated at Columbia in 1864 (A.M. 1867), and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1868; was awarded the Harzan prize in 1867 for the best written report of clinical instruction in the medical and surgical wards of the New York Hospital; attended lectures in the English and Continental Universities and hospitals, 1877-78; was made president of the Union County Medical Society, 1891; is a member of the American Medical Association; a life member and trustee of the New Jersey Historical Society; a member of the New York Historical Society; a fellow of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York; a member of the Washington Association at Morristown, N. J., etc. He gave for Lincoln Park, Newark, N. J., the life-size bronze historic Indian group by C. B. Ives; for Washington Park, Newark, N. J., the bronze bust of his father by J. Q. A. Ward, with its pedestal of stones quarried and brought for the purpose from Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem and the Mount of Olives, Palestine, having for a base a boulder of seven tons weight from a grove near the landing place of the Pilgrim Fathers at Plymouth, Mass.; gave to the people of New Jersey the painting (now in the State House at Trenton) of "The Good Samaritan" (figures life-size), by Daniel Huntington and Paul Delaroche; to Admiral Dewey, as a souvenir of his victory in Manila Bay, a Barye allegorical bronze of an eagle and dead heron; has also given rare works of art to Independence Hall, Philadelphia; to the new Congressional Library, Washington; to Mount Vernon; to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, N. Y.; to Columbia and many other universities and institutions of learning; recently by a gift of shares of stock from his father's estate he secured for the New Jersey Historical Society the possession and control of the handsome stone building and grounds of the Newark Library Association in the city of Newark. He has contributed articles to the press and edited new editions of his



"DEERHURST" RESIDENCE OF JONATHAN ACKERMAN COLES.

father's works. His collection of paintings includes the famous Paris Salon painting by Frederic A. Bridgman, known as "Pharoah Pursuing the Israelites Across the Bed of the Red Sea." In the practice of his profession he retains the offices in the Newark Homestead building occupied while associated with his father, and resides with his sister, Emilie S. Coles (a successful writer of prose and verse), at Deerhurst, a portion of their ancestral home, Scotch Plains, N. J., the home of their father and themselves during the last twenty-five years of his life.



GEORGE H. BABCOCK, the distinguished inventor and philanthropist, was born at Unadilla Forks, a hamlet near Otsego, New York, June 17, 1832. He was the second child of Acher M. and Mary E. (Stillman) Babcock, of the old Puritanic stock of Rhode Island. The father was a well-known inventor and mechanic of his time, the pin-wheel motion in plaid looms being among the number of his many ingenious and successful mechanisms. The mother also was descended from a family of mechanics, her father, Ethan Stillman, having been distinguished as constructor of ordnance for the Government in the War of 1812, and his brother, William Stillman, as a lockmaker and clock manufacturer, and the inventor of a pioneer unpickable bank lock, long before the days of Chubb and Hobbs. George H. Babcock spent most of his boyhood in the villages of Homer and Scott, both in Cortland county, New York. When he was twelve years old the family moved to Westerly, Rhode Island, where George received a fair education, subsequently spending a year in the Institute at Deruyter, New York. In Westerly he met Stephen Wilcox, afterward a famous inventor, but at that time a capable mechanic of the village. About this time young Babcock, being in feeble health and threatened with consumption, took up the new art of daguerreotyping. Through the healing influence of the fumes of iodine, used in developing the plates, he recovered his health, as he believed, and enjoyed a remarkable amount of physical vigor during the remainder of his long and active career. Photography never lost its fascination with him, and he continued to practice the art as an amateur, and was a successful and distinguished photographer to the time of his death. In 1851, when but nineteen years of age, he established the first printing office in that section of the country, and began the publication of the "Literary Echo." The paper continued its existence as the "Westerly Weekly," but, in 1854, he sold his interest in it to resume the art of daguerreotyping. In that year he, in conjunction with his father, invented the polychromatic printing press. By this invention a sheet could be printed in three colors at once. This machine was placed in the hands of C. Potter, Jr., of Westerly, Rhode Island, to manufacture and sell, and after all expenses were paid the profits were to be divided equally. This contract, which was entered into on the first day of January, 1855, was what started Mr. Potter in the printing-press business. He exhibited this press at the fair of the American institute, in October, 1855, and obtained a silver medal for it. After about one year's trial with this machine Mr. Potter found that the press, while it did mechanically all that was promised of it, was so far ahead of the times that it did not prove a financial success, and Mr. Potter, by mutual agreement, gave the invention back into the hands of the inventors, who pursued the business for several years longer, losing heavily in the end. A year or two later Mr. Babcock invented and patented a very unique and useful foot-power job press, which he placed in the hands of Mr. Potter, on the same terms as the former. This press in his hands became a success from the start, and many of them were sold, but after several years its success, was arrested by a competing builder, who claimed that in some of its features it was an infringement of his, and threatened Mr. Potter and all his customers with suits for infringement. As Mr. Potter had not the money to carry on expensive patent suits, and the other man had, the business became badly embarrassed, and, finally, sales nearly ceased. The contract was, therefore, terminated. This ended the printing-press business with Mr. Babcock. The father and son next resumed temporary control of the "Echo," issuing it as

the "Narragansett Weekly," but about one year afterward they sold their interest in the paper, and in 1860 Mr. Babcock removed to Brooklyn, N. Y., and spent three years in the office of Thomas D. Stetson, who was a prominent patent solicitor with a large practice. He was so proficient in mechanical matters that the authorities of Cooper Union engaged him to instruct a class in mechanical drawing, and his evenings were accordingly devoted to Cooper Union, greatly to the advantage of himself, as well as of his pupils. In 1860 his reputation as a draughtsman and inventor led to his employment by the Mystic Iron works, at Mystic, Connecticut, whose shops were taking part in the construction of war vessels for the United States Government. Soon afterward his services as chief draughtsman were secured by the Hope Iron works, of Providence, Rhode Island. For these two establishments he designed the machinery for a number of steam vessels belonging to the merchant marine and the federal navy. During this period he improved the shrapnel shell, employed during the war in engagements at close quarters. In this field of work Mr. Babcock gradually drew near the inventions which were destined to bring him fame and fortune. In 1866 he and his friend Wilcox formed the firm of Babcock & Wilcox, and took out a patent for a steam boiler. Their boiler was so designed that nothing like a real explosion could occur. They also produced a steam engine, and in 1868 moved to New York City to push this branch of their business to better advantage. Arrangements were made by them for the building of their engines by the Hope Iron works, of Providence; Morton, Poole & Co., of Wilmington, Delaware; Poole & Hunt, of Baltimore, and the C. & G. Cooper & Co., of Mount Vernon, Ohio. This engine possessed some singularly interesting and ingenious elements of novelty and utility. Babcock & Wilcox incorporated the New York Safety Steam Power company in 1868, to build their engines and boilers, and the industry was conducted successfully until the expiration of the Corliss patents, when their engine was withdrawn from the market. Their most famous invention was the Babcock & Wilcox safety or sectional tubular steam boiler, based on an earlier invention of Mr. Wilcox, in 1856, and so constructed that explosion would not be dangerous. Mr. Babcock so designed the boiler, however, that anything like a real explosion would not occur at all. Establishments of great magnitude were erected at Elizabeth, New Jersey, and at Glasgow, Scotland, for the extensive introduction of this boiler. For over a quarter of a century the firm successfully extended its market in the face of competition, and the introduction of this boiler and others of its class have thus saved to the world lives and property of inestimable value. Through the operations of this commercial and business arrangement the parties acquired both wealth and fame. Of his wealth Mr. Babcock made a worthy use; for many years he gave time and thought and money to the promotion of the interest of the Seventh-Day Baptists, the religious body with which he identified himself, and the advancement of the cause of education, especially on its practical and technical side. He made magnificent gifts for educational, missionary and religious purposes, and was the corresponding secretary for the American Sabbath Tract society, which position he held for nearly twelve years. During the years of 1874-85 he was a superintendent of a Sabbath school in Plainfield, and made his work famous. His love of Bible study, his blackboard illustrations, and the growth and prosperity of the school in consequence, during the time of his incumbency, were often and favorably commented upon by the keen observers of the press. He was president of the board

of trustees of Alfred university, to which he gave large sums, both during his lifetime and by bequests, and was a non-resident lecturer of Cornell university from 1885 to 1893, in the Sibley college courses in mechanical engineering. His most important papers—mainly on the scientific principles involved in the generation and use of steam power, and on the best methods of boiler construction—were prepared for the last-named courses. His last engagement, abrogated by his death, was for a lecture in the spring of 1894. His papers were always well planned, thorough, full of facts and useful knowledge, and polished in expression. His delivery was quiet, but impressive, and he held an audience, whether of college students or business men, interested to the end, however long the address. Mr. Babcock was a charter member, and at one time president, of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and was made a life member early in the history of the society. In 1870 Mr. Babcock located in Plainfield, New Jersey. He was president of the board of education of Plainfield, and was also a director of the public library of that city and a trustee of Alfred university, and by persistent efforts promoted the growth of both. He did much to improve the city by the erection of fine buildings and through other enterprises. One block of buildings constructed by him is considered the finest architecturally between New York and Philadelphia. His activity and influence in the church, in which he was a lifelong member, were equally marked and effective, and it owes much to his energy, his ever-lively interest, and his personal liberality. Mr. Babcock was a man of culture, and of broad and varied reading. He was devout and honorable, kindly, affectionate, and thoughtful for others; was a loving husband and kind father. In every relation in life he manifested admirable qualities. Mr. Babcock was married September 28, 1852, to Lucy Adelia Stillman, of Westerly, Rhode Island, who died May 20, 1861; September 25, 1862, he was married to Harriet Mandane Clark, of Plainfield, New Jersey. She died March 5, 1881. His third marriage took place February 14, 1883, when he was united to Eliza Lua Clark, of Scott, New York, who died, March 21, 1893; he was married to Eugenia Louise Lewis, of Ashway, Rhode Island. His children were Georgie Luason Babcock, born January 7, 1885, and Herman Edgar Babcock, who was born July 9, 1886, and who died August 6, 1886. His wife and the one son survive him.

CHARLES H. STILLMAN, M. D., was born at Schenectady, N. Y., January 25, 1817, of New England ancestry, his parents moving to New York State from westerly Rhode Island. He was a brother of Thomas B. Stillman, for many years the head of the Novelty Iron Works, of New York, and of William J. Stillman, the well-known art critic and London Times correspondent, whose residence is in Europe. Dr. Stillman early showed excellent mental power, and entered the sophomore class at Union College, where he was graduated in 1835, at the age of fifteen years. He chose the medical profession and moved to New York City, where for three years he was a student in the office of Dr. Delafield. He then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons and was graduated therefrom in 1840. During the following two years he was a physician in the New York Eastern Dispensary. In 1842 he established himself in his profession in Plainfield, N. J., where he continued to practice up to the time of his death, December 11, 1881. He was married in July, 1842, to Mary E. Starr, of Hamilton, N. Y. Settling in the city of Plainfield at the age of twenty-five years, and taking at once an active part in public affairs, he filled a large place in the history of the town, outside of the circle

into which he was called by his professional duties. As a physician and surgeon, he always had a reputation for learning and skill, which placed him in the front rank of his profession and gave him a large practice. No one comes nearer to the life of a people than a family physician, and a long experience of forty years, in a growing community like Plainfield, must bring a physician so in contact with that life as to make him, in an unusual degree, part of its history. As a surgeon he was very skillful, and for many years he acted in that capacity for the Central Railroad, and many doubtless remember his steady hand as a practitioner in an operation. While his professional labors made his name a household word in so many families, of his time, the crowning work of Dr. Stillman's life was the public school system of Plainfield, which laid the foundation for much that has been done in New Jersey in that direction, and the public schools of Plainfield are still designated as "School District No. 1," showing that they were among the first to be founded under school laws, which he was instrumental in establishing. His disinterested and unbroken service of thirty-four years in developing that system, and his services during all that time as school trustee and president of the Board of Education, have won for his memory a most profound regard. Plainfield's school was almost the first free school founded in the State of New Jersey, and there was not even a law on the statute books of the State to provide for raising money to found and carry on such a school. His first step was to procure the necessary legislation, and in this he met not only the difficulties which always meet one in attempting the passage of important laws, but he soon encountered the difficulties which are more stubborn, namely, those which come from the prejudices of the people. The project of a free school seemed to the citizens an innovation which ought not to be tolerated, and this prejudice had to be combated. He secured, at length, the passage of a law appropriating one hundred dollars to carry on the school for one year, and the three hundred dollars which the State had already appropriated in past years for poor children was also secured through his agency for the school at Plainfield, making, in all, the sum of four hundred dollars, to begin work. The offices of township superintendent were also established by this same law, and Dr. Stillman was elected to that position. The school was founded August 16, 1847, but, as there was no suitable building in which to hold it, application was made to the Legislature and authority obtained to raise two thousand dollars for the purpose of building a schoolhouse and defraying other expenses. It was not an easy task to accomplish this work, for it was necessary, in order to have the law passed, to present to the Legislature a petition from all the influential citizens of the community, many of whom opposed it, especially among the farmers. To these Dr. Stillman appealed, and it was one of the most trying experiences of his life, for he found them opposed to the scheme, deeming it the absurdest of things to give free schooling to anybody, but fortunately he obtained enough names to secure the passage of the law, and the appropriation was made, with the result that by the following fall a frame building was erected at the corner of West Fourth and Union streets (now Arlington avenue), where the "Franklin" stands. Chosen in 1847 as township superintendent of schools, Dr. Stillman held that office for twenty years, or until the office was abolished. He was then elected, under the law, as school trustee, and held that position until his death. The success of his lifework is best seen in our public schools, but he also held many other positions of trust and confidence. He was elected mayor of Plainfield in 1872 and served the city in that capacity two years, and as chairman of the Republican



City Executive Committee for many years he was a controlling factor in the party's public policies. He was one of the founders of the City National Bank and continued as director until his death. He was a member of the Seventh-Day Baptist church and served as trustee therein for many years. Surviving him at this date are a widow and three children, one daughter, Mary S. Myers, the wife of J. K. Myers, of the American Bank Note Company, and two sons, Prof. T. B. Stillman, professor of analytical chemistry at Stevens Institute, and William M. Stillman, a counselor-at-law of Plainfield. Another son, Dr. Charles F. Stillman, was, at the time of his death in 1892, a prominent orthopedic surgeon, of New York City and Chicago, besides holding professorships in several medical institutions on that branch of his profession.

ROWLAND COX was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on the ninth day of July, 1842, and died at Plainfield, N. J., on the thirteenth day of May, 1900. He was son of John Cooke Cox and of Ann Johns Rowland, the daughter of Judge Joseph Galloway Rowland, of the Supreme Court of Delaware. Mr. Cox entered Princeton College in the class of 1863, but in the autumn of 1862 he left college to take his part in the defense of the Union. He subsequently received his degree by vote of the faculty. He enlisted as a private in the Fifteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry and served with his regiment and on detached duty for about a year, when he was appointed assistant adjutant-general with the rank of captain, and assigned to duty at the headquarters of the Seventeenth Army Corps. He served on the staff of General James B. McPherson, commanding the Army of the Tennessee, until the death of that gallant soldier, and afterwards on the staff of Major-General Frank P. Blair. At the close of the war he was breveted major "for efficient and meritorious services during the war." After the war Mr. Cox went to Quincy, Ill., where he studied law and was admitted to the bar in 1866. In 1868 he removed to Washington, D. C., where he continued the practice of the law. In the same year he married Fanny Cummins Hill, of Smyrna, Del., who, with four children, survives him. In 1875 Mr. Cox took up his residence at Plainfield, N. J., and lived there until his death. He served as common councilman in Plainfield and was for many years one of the board of governors of Muhlenberg Hospital and a trustee of the Public Library. At the time of his removal to Plainfield he began the practice of law in New York, which he continued until the time of his death. This practice included patent, copyright and trademark cases, but it was in the latter branch of the law that he cordially delighted and conspicuously excelled, and that he attained not only a national but also an international reputation. The law is a progressive science, but no rivulet of justice has, within the past quarter of a century at least, swelled into so majestic a flood as that which has almost merged the law of property in trademarks into the law of unfair competition. And no one has had a greater share in the beneficent achievement than Rowland Cox. Mr. Cox was the author of two books and several papers upon the subject, which supplemented the labor to which his whole life was devoted, in tending firmly to establish the broadest equitable principles as rules of law compelling a high order of commercial integrity. Upon the opening of the United States Circuit Court, sitting in New York on the day after the death of Mr. Cox, after hearing addresses by members of the bar, the Court summed up his character in these words: "It is eminently proper that upon this occasion an entry should be made in the minutes recording the expressions of the bar in this matter and the loss of the court at

being deprived of the benefit, the delight and the charm of the arguments which have been advanced to it by Mr. Cox. It is a great thing to be a man of ability, a man of industry, a man of indomitable perseverance. Mr. Cox possessed all these attributes, and also an absolute integrity, upon which every judge who heard him felt that he could rest in confidence. He pursued his career as a counselor, not only with the object of doing his duty by his clients, but with the very highest ideals of professional and commercial honor, and it is that characteristic more than any other which will, I think, commend his memory to us."

COLONEL MASON WHITING TYLER, New York Society Sons of the Revolution, eldest son of Professor William and Amelia Ogden (Whiting) Tyler, was born in Amherst, Mass., June 17, 1840. He was prepared for college at Amherst Academy and Willeston Seminary, graduating from Amherst in the class of '62, receiving from his alma mater in 1865 the degree of A.M. Immediately after graduating he decided to enter the service of his country, which was then engaged in the great Civil War. He joined the Thirty-seventh Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, and was commissioned Second Lieutenant of Company F, which he assisted in organizing. His regiment was attached to the Sixth Army Corps, which was then connected with the Army of the Potomac, and afterwards served under Sheridan in the Shenandoah valley. He took part in the following engagements: Fredericksburg, December 11 to 14, 1862; Burnside's Expedition, January 20 to 23, 1863; second Fredericksburg and Marye's Heights, May 2 and 3, 1863; Salem Church, May 3 and 4, 1863; Gettysburg, July 2 and 3; Funkstown, July 11; Rappahannock Station, November 8; Mine Run, November 29; Wilderness, May 5 to 9, 1864; Spottsylvania, May 12, 13 and 18, 1864; North Anna, May 24 and 25; Cold Harbor, June 1 to 12; Petersburg, June 16, 17 and 18; Weldon Railroad, June 21; Ream's Station, June 29; Fort Stevens, July 11 and 12; Charleston, August 21; Opequon, September 19; Cedar Creek, October 19; Hatcher's Run, February 6, 1865; Dabney's Mills, February 7; Forts Steadman and Wadsworth, March 25, 1865. He was breveted major for distinguished gallantry at the battle of Winchester on September 19, 1864; commissioned major, March 4, 1865; lieutenant-colonel, May 19, 1865; colonel in command of Thirty-seventh Regiment, June 26, 1865. His regiment went into the war with a total enrollment of 1,324 men; lost 588 men killed and wounded, and 169 men who were killed or died of their wounds. The regiment was noted as one of the leading fighting regiments of the war. Colonel Tyler was several times wounded, but continued uninterruptedly in active service until the latter part of March, when he was temporarily disabled by wounds. He was honorably discharged and mustered out of service on July 1, 1865. At the battle of Winchester he was struck on the chin by a fragment of shell, which caused a painful wound. The last wound he received was in front of Petersburg in March, 1865. He was struck in the knee by a minie ball, which disabled him and caused his first absence from his regiment in a campaign. At the close of the war Colonel Tyler resumed his studies and spent one year in Columbia College Law School, and three years in the office of Evarts, Southmayd & Choate, and was admitted to the bar of New York in October, 1866. He formed a partnership in 1869, under the name of Tremain & Tyler, which continued until 1893, when the present firm of Tyler & Durand was formed. Colonel Tyler has personally conducted many important cases; notably the suit of Marie vs. Garrison, resulting in the recovery of a million dollars. His firm were attorneys for



the importers in the famous "hat trimmings" cases—*Hartman vs. Landfield* (125 U. S. R., 128), and *Robertson vs. Edelhoff* (132 U. S. R., 614). They were counsel in the treaty cases, in which the importers sued to recover duties paid upon sugar imported from countries with which the United States had treaties of commercial alliance containing the equalities of duties clause, which, it was claimed by the importers, operated to make sugar imported from these countries free after the United States had made a treaty admitting free sugar imported from the Sandwich Islands (*Whitney vs. Robertson*, 124 U. S. R., 190). Colonel Tyler acted as counsel for the appellants and argued in the Supreme Court of the United States the removal cases, which determined the jurisdiction of the United States Circuit Court under the act of Congress of March 3, 1875 (100 U. S. R., 457). He was also counsel in the case of the Pacific Railroad vs. Ketchum (101 U. S. R., 289) and other important cases argued in the United States Supreme Court. He is connected with various business enterprises, both in official and advisory capacities. He was for a time president of the Cumberland Coal and Iron Company, and was at one time a director in the Columbus and Hocking Coal and Iron Company. He is recognized as one of the most public-spirited citizens in the town of Plainfield, N. J., where he now resides. He was one of the early trustees of the Muhlenberg Hospital, was president of the Music Hall Association, president of the Organized Aid Association, and a member of the New Jersey Historical Society. He is president of the board of directors of the Plainfield public library and art gallery; is a member of the Society of the Mayflower descendants, the Society of the Colonial War, and of the military order of the Loyal Legion. He has been a member of the Society of the Sons of the Revolution since 1885, being eligible through six of his ancestors who bore a conspicuous part in the early movements which led to a separation of the colonists from the mother country. While his success in life is due wholly to his own exertions, he has just reason to be proud of the fact that the best blood of New England courses through his veins, and the record shows that the family escutcheons have continued untarnished through the several generations, and his ancestors have nearly all been founders or builders in the various localities where they have resided. Colonel Tyler married, December, 1869, Miss Eliza M. Schroeder, daughter of Rev. John F. Schroeder, D. D., formerly rector of Trinity Church, New York City. Her mother was a daughter of Hon. Elijah Boardman, U. S. Senator from Connecticut, a descendant of Rev. Daniel Boardman, the first minister of New Milford, in 1712. The issue of this marriage is two sons, William Seymour, now a practicing lawyer in New York City, and Cornelius Boardman, now a member of the senior class at Columbia College Law School.

JAMES CLARK, a noted citizen of Plainfield, whose business career has been a proud one, showing the possibilities and results of diligence and honesty. He was born in Westfield, Union county, in 1821. His parents, Ephraim and Phoebe (Clark) Clark, both natives of New Jersey, were of Scotch and English descent. Mr. Clark is a distant connection of Abraham Clark, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence, who is buried in the old cemetery at Rahway. Ephraim Clark, father of the subject of this sketch, was strictly attentive to his business, and was a highly respected and well-known resident of Westfield until his death, which occurred in 1875, at the ripe age of eighty-three years. James Clark learned the carriers' trade, at Newark, New Jersey, and soon after went to St. Louis, where

he joined an older brother, who had preceded him. In 1842, when the subject of our sketch was but twenty-one years of age, he entered into partnership with his elder brother, E. D. Clark, forming the firm of E. D. & J. Clark, manufacturers of leather, and dealers in leather and shoe-findings. This was the commencement of a business which was destined to become one of the most important of its kind in that section of the country. E. D. Clark died in 1846, and James Clark continued the business alone until 1860. In that year he admitted as a partner a brother, D. B. Clark, changing the name of the firm to James Clark & Co. This firm established a flourishing business, which expanded from year to year, until it became one of the most important in the city of St. Louis. Frank L. Clark, a son of James Clark, together with Cyrus E. Clark, a son of D. B. Clark, were subsequently admitted to the firm, which continued business until December, 1895, when the firm sold out to a corporation which was organized to continue the business, as the James Clark Leather Company. D. B. Clark, who had been associated with James Clark in the firm for so many years, died September 23, 1895. Mr. Clark assisted many employees to establish themselves in business. In 1853 A. P. Thomas, who had been in the St. Louis house, was joined by Mr. Clark in establishing the house of A. P. Thomas & Co., of Keokuk, Iowa. This was the start of a flourishing house, dealing in leather, shoe-findings and saddlery hardware. Mr. Thomas died in 1856, and W. H. Van Nostrand, also an employee of the St. Louis house, took Mr. Thomas' interest, and the firm became Clark & Van Nostrand. At the expiration of two years Mr. Van Nostrand retired from the firm, and H. H. Clark, another employee of the St. Louis house, became a partner, and the firm of J. & H. H. Clark did a prosperous business until about 1868, when H. H. Clark retired from the firm, and Newton E., a brother, and James E. Clark, a son, of James Clark, became members of the firm of Clark Brothers & Co. This business continued until about 1885, when the Keokuk house sold out and closed up their business interests there. It will thus be seen that Mr. Clark has aided many persons to establish themselves in life, and the business established by him in St. Louis was so well known by its long and honorable record that the corporation succeeding him retains his name, as it had been for years a synonym for commercial probity and honor. Mr. Clark still owns valuable real estate interests in that city, and has a wide acquaintance among its leading men. He joined the fraternity of the I. O. O. F., in St. Louis, in 1844, and in 1894 the lodge of which he was a member united in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of that occasion, by giving him a "golden jubilee." This was the first one held in that State, and was an affair of great interest. On this occasion Mr. Clark was presented with an engrossed and illustrated album, containing an account of the function, with many autograph letters from his old fraternal friends. This is superbly illustrated and ornamented, and is highly prized by him. Mr. Clark has made his home in Plainfield since 1860, and is one of the best-known citizens of the section in which he resides. He has an elegant home on West Seventh street. Mr. Clark is a man possessed of a vigorous and sturdy constitution, and his years sit lightly upon him. He is of a genial nature, and one who commands the respect and esteem of all who know him. Coming from a line of long-lived ancestry, he has doubtless many years yet to enjoy the wealth that he has accumulated by years of honorable business life. Mr. Clark has two sons, Frank L., a resident of St. Louis, and James E., a business man of Boston. Mrs. Clark, whose maiden name was Mary A.

Ferguson, is a native of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are members of the Crescent Avenue church, and enjoy high social position in Plainfield.

JOHN TAYLOR JOHNSTON was born in New York, on April 8, 1820, of old New York merchant stock. His father was John Johnston, of Boorman, Johnston & Co., and his mother was Margaret Taylor, daughter of John Taylor. Both his parents were of Scotch birth. John Taylor Johnston was their eldest son, and with the loyalty characteristic of their Scotch blood, it is not strange that he should have received a part of his early education at the Edinburgh High School, in their native country. He was graduated in 1839, at the age of nineteen, from the University of the City of New York, of which his father, John Johnston, was one of the founders. He studied law in the Yale Law School, at New Haven, with Charles Astor Bristed, Daniel D. Lord, Henry G. de Forest, and other New Yorkers of the generation which is fast passing away. He afterwards became a student in the office of Daniel Lord, Sr., and was admitted to the Bar in 1843. He remained but a short time in the active practice of his profession, for in 1848 he was induced to take the presidency of the insignificant Somerville & Easton Railroad, which he and his associates developed into what is now known as the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and with which his business career will always be connected. His presidency continued uninterruptedly from 1848 until 1877, a period of twenty-nine years, when his fortune, invested almost entirely in the enterprise, which he had so successfully developed, was almost entirely sacrificed in a vain effort to sustain the credit of the company through the disasters of that period which were common, except in degree, to all the anthracite carrying roads. He resigned the presidency of the road soon after it went into the hands of a receiver, in 1877, and was never actively associated with it afterwards. Since then his public activity had been largely confined to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and to other educational and benevolent institutions with which he was connected. The Central Railroad of New Jersey owes to him, first of all, the broad foundation on which its system was built up. It was his forethought which led to the acquisition of the Lehigh & Susquehanna Railroad, in Pennsylvania, and its appurtenant coal lands, and linked the traffic of these coal lands permanently to the Central Railroad system. It was his forethought, too, which secured the great terminal facilities of this company in New York Harbor, which have attracted to it by natural laws the traffic of the Baltimore & Ohio, the Reading, and more recently the Lehigh Valley. Almost alone on his Board of Directors, he advocated the building and leasing of the New York & Long Branch Railroad. Many years before any other railroad men initiated a policy of suburban development, he foresaw its importance and by frequent train service and attractive station grounds built up central New Jersey between Jersey City and Somerville. His expenditures to secure low grades and good alignments and to avoid grade crossings were far in advance of the railroad science of his times and were ridiculed by some of his competitors. He also laid out extensive systems of roads, specially designed to develop the country, in connection with the railroad lines. The mountain road at Plainfield, where he had his summer residence for many years, bears his name and central New Jersey, between Elizabeth and Somerville, owes to him a debt of gratitude for its progress and development. He was always interested in art—an interest fostered by two years' residence abroad after graduation from the Law School. His picture gallery was, up to the time of its sale and dispersion, in 1877, the most important in America. It was

always thrown open generously to the public on one day of each week, and it was his habit to assemble in it all the artists of New York at least once a year. Among his noted pictures were: Church's "Niagara," now in the Corcoran Gallery, at Washington; Muller's "Last Roll Call" in the Conciergerie, now belonging to Mr. Astor; Turner's "Slave Ship," and representative works of Meissonier, Jules Breton, Brion, Fortuny, Madrazo, Daubigny, and the Barbizon School. His taste in art was thoroughly catholic. The American, German and English Schools were all represented, as well as the French. He was a natural leader in organizing the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and gave from its first inception, until his infirmities incapacitated him from all business, his watchful and earnest care. Of all the many enterprises with which he had been associated, this stood nearest to his heart. He was the first president of the Museum, and continued to occupy this office until 1889, when he was forced to resign because of the condition of his health. He was succeeded by Henry C. Marquand. He was then elected honorary president for life, a position which he held at the time of his death. The acquisition of the earlier collections of the Museum was largely due to his generosity. His presidency was no honorary one. His last public appearance was at the annual meeting of the Museum in 1892, and the annual meeting for the present year was the first one from which he was ever absent. Nor was his activity confined to the public enterprises which have been named. The University of the City of New York, of the governing body of which he was the president, the Presbyterian Hospital, the Women's Hospital, the St. Andrew's Society and the Boards of the Presbyterian Church, all claimed and received their share of his attention. He followed his father as an elder in the Old Scotch Presbyterian Church and took his full part in church councils. He was an influential member of several general assemblies, in which he represented the New York Presbytery. At the time William M. Tweed was tried in New York, Mr. Johnston was the foreman of the jury that convicted him. He never permitted his business or public duties to interfere with his family life, which, until the death of his eldest son and wife, occurring in 1886 and 1888, respectively, was an unusually happy one. He married Frances Colles, daughter of James Colles, 1851. One son, J. Herbert Johnston, and three daughters, all married, Mrs. Robert W. de Forest, Mrs. Pierre Mali, and Mrs. Henry E. Coe, survive him. Mr. Johnston's death occurred March 24, 1893, at his home, No. 8 Fifth avenue, New York City, in the seventy-third year of his age. Creeping paralysis, beginning in 1877, caused his death. Thus closed the career of one who, until the last few years, when increasing infirmity compelled him to withdraw from business and social life, was one of New York's best known and most useful citizens. The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Central Railroad system of New Jersey, in the foundation of both of which he took the leading part, represent his most important achievements.

JOHN LEFFERTS LUDLUM was born in New York city on November 6, 1812. He was of English and Holland-Dutch extraction, his ancestors settling on Long Island, at or near Jamaica, about the middle of the seventeenth century. He was brought up in the old Middle Dutch church in New York, and later was connected with the West Twenty-third street and Brick churches in same city. He was for many years a member of the New York Historical Society. Was in mercantile pursuits until the year 1865, when he retired from business, and enjoyed a life of leisure, diversified by frequent travel and sojourn abroad. He removed in 1880 to Plainfield, New Jersey,



where he resided until his death on May 17, 1897. In 1842 Mr. Ludlum was married to Sarah E., daughter of Charles Lee, of New York; and on November 16, 1867, to Emma Ruthven, daughter of Samuel Lord, of Kennebunk, Maine, and granddaughter of James Ruthven, of New York city. He left no descendants.

AUGUSTUS CHESTER BALDWIN came of a large New England family, whose early progenitors are traced to England, Scotland and Wales. The name is found in at least four languages, its signification being "Bold, courageous friend." These traits, together with those indicated in his baptismal name (Augustus) were prominent in his unique character. As a boy, his active and ambitious spirit craved a larger arena than the quaint and peaceful village of Spencertown; and at fifteen he exchanged the picturesque scenes of his native hills in Columbia county, New York, for the stir and competition of Chicago. Here the large city store, always an attraction to him, gave him his first experience in clerkship. As a young man he entered the wholesale clothing house of Baldwin, Starr & Co., of Broadway, New York city, a firm having a large Southern trade. He rose rapidly to a partnership in the business before the Civil War. On the retirement of C. P. Baldwin and C. J. Starr, he became the head of the firm, and for many years conducted that business in New York city. Several years after the war he dissolved the firm and traveled for some time in Europe. On his return he formed a partnership with Christian Schefflin, of Plainfield, New Jersey, Mr. Schefflin superintending their large manufactory on West Front street, in this city, and Mr. Baldwin conducting the financial part of the business at their office in New York city. This firm subsequently became Schefflin, Baldwin, Tweedy & Co., from which he retired about 1888. In 1881 he married the eldest daughter of the late Rev. Hugh B. Gardiner, and built the home on corner of Park and Crescent avenues, in which he lived until his death, in 1898. The broad views acquired by mercantile life in large cities, and great zeal and affection for the town of his adoption, made Mr. Baldwin a noble citizen and a public benefactor. Always a generous and public-spirited man, he had deep at heart the welfare of Plainfield, and was ever her untiring champion and strong defender. An earnest advocate for the city's best development, he urged many suggestions then considered very "advanced," the wisdom of which the years have proven. Largely to his indefatigable labors Plainfield owes her music hall, public library, art gallery, and Hillside cemetery. He was president of the board of directors of the public library until his health failed, and he was a director in the other associations named. High encomiums have been given him by his fellow-citizens for "the greatest integrity and upright dealings during a long and successful business career, and for his inimitable efforts in the interests of Plainfield." (From *Courier-News*.) On Mr. Baldwin's resignation from the library board a testimonial was tendered him by that body. From it we quote: "The name of Augustus C. Baldwin will always be associated with that of Job Male as that of a joint author of the permanent foundation which the library and reading-room now enjoys. This influence induced Mr. Male to provide the library and art gallery with a home, and at the same time his perseverance and energy raised the funds which supplied its shelves with books and its walls with pictures. In fact, the institution is a monument to Mr. Baldwin's public spirit and enterprise, the beneficent results of which will ever be more and more appreciated." He was a member of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church and a liberal contributor to it, and to every benevolent object. In his family he was a strong

pillar on which all loved to lean in absolute confidence. His ready sympathy and great generosity never failed a single member. One of his friends and fellow-townsmen said of him: "I had a very high regard for Mr. Baldwin. Plainfield is deeply indebted to him. In fact, I cannot name any other single man who has done so much and so wisely for us." Another wrote: "To me his distinguishing trait and chief characteristic will always be bigness of heart and openness of hand." He was a staunch and trusted friend, and a large circle, who will never forget his many kindnesses, mourn his absence.

PHINEAS M. FRENCH, whose demise occurred April 1, 1901, was born near Union village, Somerset county, New Jersey, August 10, 1812, and passed his boyhood days on his father's farm. In 1836 he was married to Mary E. Oswald, and built the house at No. 106 Somerset street, in which he resided for two decades, and then erected the present family homestead on Somerset street. In 1839 he purchased an interest in the mill which stood where the City mill now is, and later bought the entire plant. Some years afterwards he erected the City mills. Mr. French was one of the original directors of the Beach bank, incorporated in this city in 1847, and also of the Union County bank and the First National bank, which succeeded it in turn. At one time he owned the Plainfield gas works, and had for years possessed large real estate holdings in the city and borough. For twenty years he was a member of the Court of Appeals, and has also been a freeholder of the county, and was a member of the town committee years ago. In 1861, Mr. French's wife died, and in the following year he married Sarah J. Lees, of Montclair. For a period of sixty years he had been a trustee of the First M. E. church, and has ever been prominent in religious circles. He is survived by six children of the first marriage—Mrs. George H. Whitney, of First place; Mrs. J. C. Smith, of Summit; Mrs. H. P. Shepherd, of Forestville, N. Y.; Theodore F. French, of East Front street; John H. French, of West Seventh street, and Louis M. French, of Craig place; and by the wife, Mrs. Sarah J. French, and four children of the second marriage—Miss Harriet French and Elston M. French, who reside at the homestead, and William A. French, of St. Paul, and David H. French, of Texas. Mr. French was not only the oldest, but also one of the most highly respected business men in the city and borough. He was in all respects a model citizen. Honest and upright in his character; strong in his religious zeal; progressive in his business; and ever watchful to the interests of the borough, he occupied during a long and busy life an enviable position in the affairs of North Plainfield. Coming here when the borough was in its infancy, Mr. French, by his endearing qualities, had for years been looked upon as the borough patriarch, and has unceasingly exerted a great influence in the advancement of all that was for the welfare of his church, his borough, and his friends.

ALEXANDER GILBERT, banker, was born at Elizabeth, N. J., in 1839, being the son of the late Thomas and Phebe E. (Mathews) Gilbert; the former, a native of Ireland, while an infant, with his parents, came to America, settled in New York, where he grew up and was educated. For many years Mr. Gilbert's father was a resident of Newark and Elizabeth, N. J., where he was engaged in business as an ironfounder. He subsequently removed to New Haven, Conn., where he remained for two years, after which he located in Brooklyn, N. Y. While residing at New Haven, Mr. Gilbert, the subject of this sketch, entered a preparatory



school, intending to enter Yale college; the removal of his parents to Brooklyn altered his plans. After receiving a liberal education in the Brooklyn schools, he entered the office of Tuttle & Bailey, a concern in which his father was interested, and where he remained three years. His next position was that of cashier in the hardware establishment of W. N. Seymour & Co., of New York. After remaining three years in this position, in 1859, he accepted a position as second assistant receiving teller in the Market Bank, New York. In 1863, when twenty-four years of age, Mr. Gilbert became cashier of that institution, enjoying the distinction of being the youngest cashier in the city, and continuing to be such for a number of years. In 1890 he was elected vice-president. In 1887 he was offered the presidency of the old Fulton bank, but having declined this position, the two banks consolidated, under the name of the Market and Fulton National Bank of New York, since which time he has been offered the presidency of several banks, all of which overtures he declined, preferring to remain where he is. In 1896 the last offer made Mr. Gilbert was from the Southern National bank, which he also declined, when the business of that bank was consolidated with that of the Market and Fulton bank. These consolidations, which were brought about by Mr. Gilbert, were the means of making his bank one of the leading financial institutions of New York city. In 1896 he became president of the Market and Fulton bank, a position he still retains. Mr. Gilbert has been a resident of Plainfield, N. J., since 1866. In 1870 he was elected a member of the common council of that city, in which capacity he served for a number of years. He was one of the commissioners for the revision of the charter of Plainfield. With all the early improvements which have made Plainfield what it now is Mr. Gilbert has been prominently identified; he was influential in procuring the elevation of the tracks of the Central Railroad of New Jersey through the city. In 1890 Mr. Gilbert was elected Mayor of Plainfield, in which office he served until 1896, having no opponent in the last two elections. He declined subsequent nominations for that office on account of pressure of business. Politically, Mr. Gilbert is a Republican. In 1888 he was a delegate to the Republican Presidential convention held at Minneapolis, and a member of the committee to notify President Benjamin Harrison of his renomination. Mr. Gilbert was one of the organizers of the Y. M. C. A. of Plainfield and was its first president. He has been a trustee of the First Baptist church, of Plainfield, for nearly twenty-five years. He is a member of the Union County club and vice-president of the Fulton club, of New York. In 1865 Mr. Gilbert married Miss Louise F. Randolph, daughter of Isaac F. and Isabella F. Randolph, an old and noted family of New Jersey. In June, 1900, after a brief illness, death deprived him of her companionship. Mrs. Gilbert was a much-beloved and cultured lady; she was a Daughter of the Revolution and a Colonial Dame.

REV. LEWIS BOND was born at Elizabethtown, New Jersey, October 9, 1795. He was a lineal descendant of Robert Bond, who came from England and settled at Lynn, Massachusetts, in 1639, removing to Long Island in 1643, and thence to Elizabethtown in 1664. While yet young, his father, Elihu Bond, removed to the homestead farm, midway between Elizabeth and Newark, which was in the possession of the family for more than two hundred years, and there the son remained until he became of age. In June, 1817, he was received into the First Presbyterian church of Elizabethtown, and in the same year commenced his preparatory studies in the local academy, of

which Moses Smith was principal. In 1820 he entered the junior class of Union college, at Schenectady, New York, graduating in 1822. The same year he entered Princeton Theological seminary, took the three-year course, and was licensed to preach by the presbytery of Elizabethtown, October 7, 1825. On June 8, 1826, Mr. Bond was married to Catherine, third daughter of Cornelius Van Derveer, of Rocky Hill, New Jersey, a direct descendant of Cornelis Jansse Van Derveer, who emigrated from Holland in 1659, and settled in Flatbush, Long Island. Upon her mother's side Mrs. Bond traced her ancestry through the Van Dyke and Bergen families to Hans Hansen Bergen, who came to this country in 1633 and married Sara Rapalie, the first white female child born in the New Netherlands. Mr. Bond was ordained on June 6, 1826, and preached for the newly organized Presbyterian church at Plainfield, New Jersey, by appointment of presbytery, until April, 1829, when he was installed as pastor, and continued as such until 1857. Then, a new church edifice having been completed and paid for, largely through his efforts, and believing that a younger man could better perform the increasing duties of the pastorate, at his earnest request the pastoral relation was dissolved. During his later years he was frequently called upon to preach, and to perform marriage and funeral services, but the love for outdoor life that he had acquired in boyhood was still strong within him, and much of his time was devoted to the cultivation of the soil. What was his farm is now one of the fine residential districts of the city. Mr. Bond's father was a soldier of the Revolution, and was an ardent patriot. His house was used as a guardhouse, and his recital of the anxieties, alarms and dangers of that trying period served to imbue the son with a like spirit. While yet a youth he was connected with a company of mounted militia, and May 29, 1829, was appointed "Chaplain to the First Regiment, in the Brigade of the Cavalry of New Jersey," receiving his commission from Governor Williamson. Until past middle life, Mr. Bond rode with Colonel William Brown and staff upon public occasions. He wore no military insignia, except the sash, yet his fine mount and superb horsemanship rendered him a most conspicuous figure. Mr. Bond was an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, ever ready to do what he could to advance the interests of the town. He was active in the promotion of education, an ardent friend of temperance, and, while taking no leading part in politics, did not fail to use his influence and cast his vote for that which he believed to be right. During the early years of his ministry he conducted a school, teaching therein, in addition to his pastoral work, and being ably assisted for a time by the late Dr. Abraham Coles, the eminent classical scholar and poet, who, although himself a student and but seventeen years of age, gave instruction to the class in Latin and mathematics. Mr. Bond died January 23, 1885, having survived his wife for nearly thirteen years. They left four children: Theophilus, who married Emma A. Price, of Newark; Isaac Van Derveer, who married Dezier A. Ayers, of Plainfield; Catherine Louisa; and Lewis, who married Fanny Russell, of New York, and who has been, for nearly thirty years, a missionary of the American board in European Turkey. His portrait hangs above the altar in the chapel, and a beautiful memorial tablet has been erected in the church of which he was the first pastor, and which was his first and only charge.

LEANDER NEWTON LOVELL, son of Leander Perkins and Ariadne Borden Lovell, born in Fall River, Mass., November 15, 1835, is descended from John Howland and Richard Warren, of the Mayflower. His father

died when he was seven years old. Educated at Fall River, Mass. Came to New York in 1852, entering the office of Tisdale & Borden, who were then agents for the Fall River line of steamers, the Fall River Iron Works and the Borden Coal Mining Company. In 1863, having passed through the various grades of clerkship, he was taken into copartnership with Col. William Borden, under the firm name of Borden & Lovell. Col. Borden died in 1882, but the firm name has continued without interruption. On January 16, 1867, he married Phoebe B. Durfee, and five sons and three daughters have been born to them. Mr. Lovell was a member of the Union League Club of New York in its early history and continued in its membership for several years. He is a life member of the New England Society and New York Young Men's Christian Association, and member of New York Chamber of Commerce, Maritime Association, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Society of Mayflower Descendants, Sons of American Revolution and Colonial Wars, president of the Borden Mining Company, the Lovell Coal Mining Company, the Northern Insurance Company, the Eastern Coal & Coke Company, director of the Old Colony Steamboat Company, the Ohio & Kentucky Railway, the Eastern Insurance Company, trustee of the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company, and one of the managers of the Life Saving Benevolent Association of New York. He was for several years an elder of the Church of the Covenant, New York, and is now an elder of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, Plainfield, N. J., and a member of the Board of Education of that city.

**WILLIAM McDOWELL CORIELL.**—The Coriells in New Jersey are descendants of three brothers—Elias, Emanuel and David—who emigrated from the Island of Corsica in 1663, and were of French Huguenot stock. One branch of the family settled at Lambertville, N. J. Coryell's ferry was famous as the place of Washington's crossing the Delaware in the time of the Revolution. His paternal great-grandfather, David, born December 19, 1735, married Elizabeth Whitehead, who was born June 19, 1737, and bore him children—Elisha, Rachael, David, Alice, grandmother of Chancellor Runyon, of Newark; Samuel, Elizabeth, Susannah, grandmother of Judge Runyon, of Plainfield Isaac, father of Dr. Coriell, of New Market; and Abraham. Elisha Coriell, grandfather of our subject, first resided at New Market, and subsequently at Dunellen, Middlesex county, and his farm of two hundred acres was a part of the present site of the village of Dunellen. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and received a pension after its close. He was a ruling elder in the Presbyterian church at Bound Brook for many years, and at the time of his death. His wife, Mary, daughter of Luke Covert, bore him children—Ephraim, father of our subject; Elizabeth, wife of Zachariah Pound, of Dunellen; Anna, wife of David Laforge, Newton; Sally, unmarried; Harriet, wife of David Vankirk, Somerville, N. J.; and David, who resided on the homestead property until his death. By a second marriage to Nancy Dunn, Elisha Coriell had children—Eunice, Maria, wife of Isaac Van Nostrand; Caroline, wife of Ralph Conover. Ephraim Coriell, born November 21, 1790, was killed by accident near Bound Brook by the cars on the railroad, September 7, 1857. He obtained a part of the homestead at Dunellen by purchase and inheritance, where he spent his life as a farmer. He was formerly a member of the Presbyterian church at Bound Brook, and was one of the founders of the First Presbyterian church of Plainfield, and one of its ruling elders. He was also one of the founders of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church of Plainfield, and one

of its ruling elders until his death. Ephraim Coriell was a representative man of his township, and served several years on the board of chosen freeholders. His wife, Sally, born August 11, 1791, whom he married December 26, 1811, died April 2, 1873. She was a daughter of Levi and Sarah Lenox, of Plainfield. Levi Knox was a soldier in the Revolutionary war, and died December 24, 1828, aged about eighty years, and his wife, Sarah, died February 25, 1837, aged eighty-five years. The children of Ephraim and Sally Coriell are: Levi L., born September 5, 1812, died young; William McDowell, born December 19, 1815; and Abraham, born June 27, 1819, who was a member of the State Legislature from Somerset county, N. J., and resided near Dunellen until the date of his death. William McDowell received the common advantages of a district-school education during his boyhood, and at the age of seventeen began learning the hatters' trade with Van Nostrand & Conover, before mentioned, hat manufacturers at what is now Evona, in Plainfield township. After reaching his majority, having completed his trade, he spent a few years at home, and without pecuniary assistance, but with a resolve to do something for himself, he worked for a few years as a journeyman at his trade. In 1844, with five others as partners, with small capital, he began hat manufacturing at the factory formerly occupied by Van Nostrand & Conover, which continued for only one year. In 1846 he bought the same factory, and there manufactured hats until 1849, when he built a plant near the railroad, where he continued in business until his retirement in 1895. In 1842 he settled on the homestead formerly owned by his grandfather, Lenox, upon which, in 1856, he built his present substantial residence. Mr. Coriell was formerly a director and stockholder in the old Union County Bank of Plainfield; was one of the founders of the First National Bank, which took the place of the other, and was a director until January 1, 1900, when he retired on account of the infirmities of age; is one of the directors of the Washington Fire Insurance Company of Plainfield; was a member of the common council for several years after the incorporation of Plainfield as a city, and he was one of the founders of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, and succeeded his father as one of its ruling elders in 1858. He married, October 20, 1840, Eliza C., daughter of Benjamin Runyon, of Plainfield, who died January 2, 1881. Their children are William Henry, Ephraim, Benjamin F., Levi, and David, all of whom are dead, except Benjamin F., who is now deputy clerk of Union county.

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CORIELL**, Deputy Clerk of Union county, was born at Plainfield, N. J., September 20, 1846. He is the third son and child of William McDowell and Eliza C. (Runyon) Coriell, both of whom are natives of New Jersey. His father, William McDowell Coriell, is of French-Huguenot stock, his ancestors having emigrated to America from the Island of Corsica in 1663; one branch of the family settling at Lambertville, N. J., and the place made famous by Washington crossing the Delaware at that point was called Coryell's Ferry. Benjamin F. Coriell, the subject of this sketch, has spent his entire life in Plainfield. When a boy he attended the public schools in that city, and later took a course at the American Business College in Springfield, Mass. He has long been a prominent figure in local politics in Plainfield. He served as a member of the Common Council from 1883 to 1885, inclusive. He was re-elected in 1899 and 1900, and is at present a member of that body. During the years of 1884 and 1885 he was president of the council. During the years of 1877 and 1878



he was chief of the old volunteer fire department. Mr. Coriell is a member of Trinity Reformed church; Jerusalem Chapter, R. A. M., and Trinity Commandery, K. T., of Plainfield. He is also a member of Mecca Shrine, New York City. On May 30, 1877, he married Miss Annie A. Marsh, of Plainfield. They have two children, William McDowell, Jr., and Lucie M.

ELIAS R. POPE (deceased) was one of Plainfield's foremost citizens. He was born in 1836 and at the time of his death was sixty years of age. When Mr. Pope first located at Plainfield he entered the dry goods establishment of Isaac S. Dunham as a clerk, and with whom he remained until he, with his brothers, Howard and David, formed a co-partnership in the same line. After continuing in that connection for some years, Mr. Pope withdrew from the firm and became interested in financial affairs. In 1867-8 he was one of the organizers of the Dime Savings Bank of Plainfield, and officiated as treasurer of the concern from its organization up to the day of his death. He was succeeded to that position by his brother, James C. Pope, who still acts in that capacity. Mr. Pope was for twenty years the treasurer of the Seventh-Day Baptists' Memorial Fund. He was also a trustee of the Plainfield Seventh-Day Baptist church. He was president of the First National Bank of Plainfield, the institution in which he first began his career in financial matters. He had also served as vice-president of the City National Bank, a position he resigned to accept the presidency of the First National Bank. He was president of the Plainfield Gas and Electric Light Company, treasurer of the Plainfield Water Supply Company, president of the Board of Trade, and a member of the Republican City Executive Committee. Mr. Pope was a member of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26, F. & A. M., and the Union County Club. He was county collector in 1872, and in 1875 to 1877 was a member of the New Jersey Assembly. He was appointed postmaster in 1882, serving until 1886. In 1890 he was again appointed to that position and served until 1894. On December 28, 1858, Mr. Pope married Miss Hannah Allen, daughter of Joseph P. Allen, an old and highly esteemed citizen of Shiloh, Cumberland county, N. J. Two sons have been born to the marriage, viz.: Frank Allen and Edward Grant Pope, who still reside at home with their mother. Mr. Pope's death has created a void in Plainfield that can never be filled. The city contained no citizen who was so universally known and esteemed as was Elias R. Pope.

WILLIAM WHITE was born in England, October 27, 1824. When six years old his father died, and shortly thereafter his mother came to America with this son and two daughters. The family settled in Jersey City, and there Mr. White learned the mason's trade as soon as he was twelve years of age. Faithful and uninterrupted application at the builders' art made him proficient in his occupation. By strict economy and frugal savings, he was enabled to accumulate considerable property by the time he was twenty-five years old. The excitement of the gold fever in 1849 attracted him to California. Here he took up his life trade, not finding the "nuggets" as plentiful as expected. While in San Francisco he built there the first Baptist church on the Pacific coast. In a short time he returned to the State of his adoption and continued his trade of master builder. He purchased several unoccupied lots in Jersey City and improved them by erecting thereon dwellings and storehouses. For a period of ten years he was actively engaged in extensive building contracts. In 1855 Mr. White married Miss Mary

A. Hagel, who, with two daughters, Mary and Nellie H., and a son, George F., survive him; also Florence H., daughter of his deceased son, William I. White, all of whom now reside in the borough of North Plainfield. Among the enduring structures built by Mr. White was the Bergen Baptist church of Jersey City Heights. It was in his own home, during the year 1859, that the society was duly organized. In the spring of 1865 the family moved to Plainfield and Mr. White at once became identified with its business interests and church relations. He superintended the construction of the large stone edifice of the First Baptist church, completed and dedicated in the fall of 1869. He purchased a large tract of land in North Plainfield soon after settling there, and, with others, beautified his own property and that of several neighbors in the development of what is known as "Washington Park." In the city of Plainfield he invested largely in building lots on Front street and erected several brick stores of his own and for many other citizens. His sound business qualifications recommended his practical services in the management of local institutions. Since 1875 he was engaged as appraiser of real estate for the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. Probably no other man was equally efficient and reliable in valuations of property in Northern New Jersey. Upon his careful estimates millions of dollars have been loaned on bond and mortgage. Mr. White died November 4, 1893, in the seventieth year of his age. Not only in all public business affairs was he a worthy example of uprightness, but in his Christian character he honored his religion by a pure and useful manhood. He had always been identified with the Baptist denomination since 1841, the year of his conversion.

EDWARD CAMPBELL MULFORD (deceased), second son of Eleyazer and Eliza (Campbell) Mulford, was born at Somerville, N. J., March 31, 1833. His boyhood days were spent in Philadelphia, Pa., where he received his education. After leaving school he learned the trade of a mason and builder, an occupation he followed until 1876, when he engaged in the real estate and insurance business at Plainfield. He continued in the latter business up to the time of his death, which occurred May 13, 1900. He was one of the most successful business men of Plainfield, and possessed the confidence and esteem of all who knew him. In 1862 Mr. Mulford enlisted as a private in Company H, Thirtieth regiment, New Jersey volunteers, in the War of the Rebellion. On September 17, of the same year, he was promoted to sergeant; and on February 8, 1863, he received further promotion, and was made second lieutenant in company H. On March 16, same year, he was made first lieutenant of Company E, Thirtieth regiment, after which he received an honorable discharge from the service. Mr. Mulford was always a Republican. He served as a member of the Plainfield common council for one term, having been elected to that body from the second ward. He was a prominent member of the First M. E. church, and was at one time one of the church stewards. He was a member of Jerusalem lodge, No. 26, F. & A. M., and at the time of his death was the oldest past master of that lodge; he was also a prominent member of Winfield Scott post, No. 73, G. A. R. Mr. Mulford was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Seaman, of North Plainfield, N. J., January 1, 1859. Eight children were born to the union, five of whom are living and three deceased. The living children are: Mrs. Laura M. Lewis, Mrs. F. S. Cutter, Armstrong, May and Carrie; the deceased children are: Elizabeth, Edward, Jr., and Samuel. At the death of Mr. Mulford, Mr. Armstrong Mulford, the only living son, assumed charge of the estate,





Engr. by W. H. Miller & Co. N.Y.

Chas. F. Abbott



and has successfully conducted the affairs, with that of the business, ever since.

CHARLES W. HYDE was born at Eagle, Wyoming county, N. Y., February 27, 1822. For many years he was a resident of Pennsylvania, where he became interested in the oil industry. For the past thirty-one years he has been a resident of Plainfield. Mr. Hyde is president of the City National Bank. He is also largely interested in a number of other local institutions, being one of Plainfield's most substantial citizens.

DAVID J. BOICE (deceased) was one of the best-known citizens of Plainfield. His grandfather, George Boice, was a prosperous farmer residing near Newmarket, Middlesex county, N. J. One of his sons, Jacob, and father of the subject of this sketch, was born in 1789. He died at Plainfield in 1845. His wife, Rebecca, was a daughter of David Blackford, of Sampton, N. J. Her decease occurred in 1838. Their children were David J. and Mary. David J. Boice, the subject, settled in Plainfield in 1842. In 1844 he erected a home at the corner of Center and Second streets, where he continued to reside until 1869, at which time he removed to a new residence he had erected at the corner of Park avenue and Fifth street, and now occupied by his widow. Prior to engaging in business for himself, Mr. Boice was in the employ of the Central Railroad of New Jersey. In 1850 he established a coal and lumber business, which he successfully conducted up to the date of his death. The business is still ably carried on by his widow and two daughters, under the firm name of Boice, Runyon & Co. It is the most important of its kind in Plainfield. In 1840 Mr. Boice married Miss Rachel, daughter of the late Jonathan F. Randolph, of Plainfield. Two daughters were born to their marriage, Sarah R., widow of the late John D. Runyon, and Anna E., both of whom reside at the old homestead. Mr. Boice always manifested much interest in the development and welfare of Plainfield. For many years he was a director in the First National Bank. He served as a member of the City Council for one term. He was liberal in his support to all worthy charities, and was one of the men who laid the solid foundation Plainfield enjoys to-day.

JOHN D. RUNYON (deceased) was born at Newmarket, N. J., December 3, 1845. He received a careful education in a private school at Flushing, N. Y., and later attended Fairchild Institute, from which he was graduated. After completing his studies, he began a mercantile career with his brother, forming a copartnership in the grocery business which they conducted at Newmarket. These relations continued until the death of his brother occurred, at which time Mr. Runyon assumed full charge of affairs. In 1883 he disposed of the business and located at Plainfield, where he engaged in the coal and lumber business with the late David J. Boice. After the death of Mr. Boice, he became manager of the firm of Boice, Runyon & Co. His interests continued in this connection up to the time of his death, April 15, 1900. Mr. Runyon was united in marriage with Sarah R., daughter of the late David J. Boice, December 7, 1876. His widow still survives him and resides at the old homestead with her mother. Mr. Runyon was a public-spirited man and always took a deep interest in the welfare of Plainfield. He was universally esteemed by all classes.

CHARLES FRANKLIN ABBOTT was born in Litchfield, Herkimer county, New York, in 1850, being the youngest child of Sardis L. and Rebecca (Budlong) Abbott, both

natives of New York State. His early life was spent in school, and at the age of fourteen he was placed in Whites-town seminary, a preparatory school for Hamilton college. Before entering college he taught school for two years, when he decided to enter mercantile life, going to Hartford, Conn., where he engaged in the retail trade. After two years' experience at retailing he came to New York, where the rest of his business life has been spent. He is the manager of the New York office of the Warner Brothers Company, corset manufacturers, with whom he has been identified for over twenty years. In 1872 Mr. Abbott married Alice Vincent, of Newport, N. Y. They have four children living—Florence Alice, wife of James R. Blake, Charles Westley, Gordon Wilson, and Robert. They are all members of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church. Mr. Abbott removed to Plainfield, N. J., in 1883 and has taken an interest in the educational affairs of the city, being for the past six years a member of the school board, and is now serving his second term. In politics he is a Republican. Mr. Abbott's paternal ancestry dates back to George Abbott, who came from Yorkshire, England, in 1620. He married Hannah Chandler in 1643 and settled in Andover, Mass., where still stands the old Abbott mansion. At the time of the Revolution his ancestor was a Tory, and Mr. Abbott thinks if he had received his just deserts there would have been no occasion for this sketch. Mr. Abbott resides at the corner of Central and Stelle avenues, in a house built by himself, a picture of which is here shown.

ALEXANDER M. RUNYON was born in Plainfield, February 4, 1835, his parents being Ira and Sarah Runyon. He was educated in the Plainfield public schools and at an early age went to Elizabeth, where he learned the trade of cabinetmaking with the late James Ogden. In the early sixties he associated himself with Oliver Runyon, then the leading furniture dealer and undertaker in Plainfield. Here he remained until April 1, 1875, when he started in business for himself in the basement of the building now occupied by the Courier-News. In 1882 he associated with him his second son, Elmer E. Runyon, who continues with him under the firm name of A. M. Runyon & Son, undertakers, with offices at Park avenue and Franklin street. Mr. Runyon married, in November, 1858, Elizabeth Willits, daughter of the late Samuel Willits, of Aurora, New York. Two children have been born to them, Frank Willits Runyon, the editor of the Courier-News, and Elmer E. Runyon. Mr. Runyon is a member of the First Baptist church, and is a member of Jerusalem Lodge, F. & A. M.

ERNEST R. ACKERMAN was born in the city of New York, June 17, 1863—the son of James Henry and Ellen Robinson Ackerman. His parents removed to Plainfield when he was five years of age. His preliminary educational discipline was received at private schools, but he graduated from the high school in the class of 1880. Having a great fondness for travel, he indulged in it extensively, and at this time he has completed a quarter of a million miles of travel in all parts of the globe. In 1890 he was elected to the Plainfield Common Council, serving as chairman of the finance committee. In 1892 he served as chairman of the Republican city executive committee. In 1894 he was prominently mentioned as the Republican candidate for Congress, but business requirements prevented him from accepting the nomination. In 1896 he lent his aid to the Republican party in advocating Republican principles (the election of McKinley and Hobart), serving as a member of the Electoral College which elected the McKinley and Hobart ticket, and



served as the secretary of the college on its convening at Trenton. Mr. Ackerman is a member of the Building Material Exchange, the Union League Club, Lawyers' Club and Chamber of Commerce of New York, as well as an associate of the American Society of Civil Engineers and a member of the executive committee of the Business Men's Association of New York city, a member of the board of managers of the Geological Survey of New Jersey, trustee of the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club, chairman of the finance committee of Muhlenberg Hospital, a trustee of Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, director and chairman of the executive committee of the Y. M. C. A., and a member of the advisory board of the Relief Association. In various capacities he is connected with railroad, water and manufacturing enterprises. He is married and resides on West Elghth street.

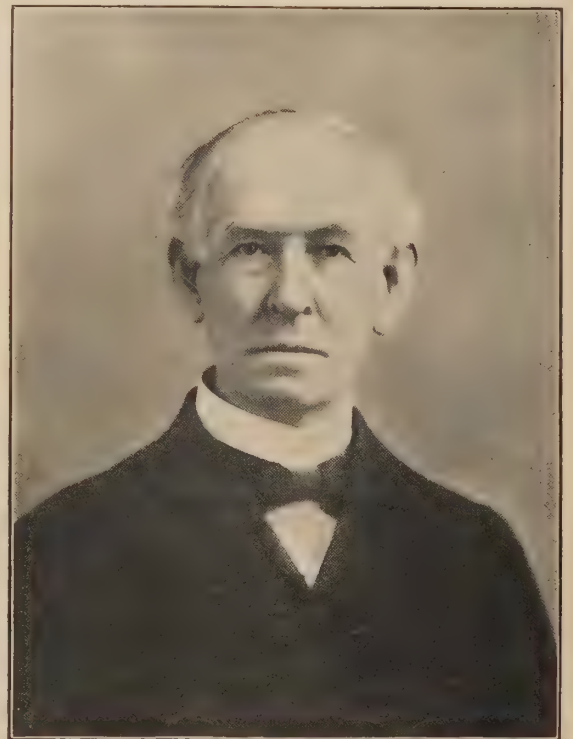
CHARLES JOEL FISK was born in Jersey City in 1858; his father, Harvey Fisk, who died in 1889, was a well-known banker in New York City. The subject of this sketch was educated in New York. When he was seventeen years of age he entered his father's office, and has been connected with the banking business ever since. In 1891 Mr. Fisk became a member of the city council of Plainfield. He was one of the leaders in securing the sewer system for the city. In 1897 Mr. Fisk was elected to office of mayor of Plainfield, a position he filled with much dignity. He has been a delegate to different county conventions, and was alternate to the St. Louis convention which nominated Major McKinley for President in 1896. He served as chairman of the campaign committee, and did good work for his party. He is a member of the Lawyers' Club, the Republican Club and the Wool Club, all of New York City, and of the Union County Club of Plainfield. Mr. Fisk is the senior member of the firm of Harvey Fisk & Sons, New York. In 1879 Mr. Fisk married Miss Lillie R. Richey, of Trenton, New Jersey, a daughter of the late Augustus G. Richey, who was one of the most prominent lawyers of the State. They have five children: Louisa G., Augustus R., Charles W., Harvey and Annie G. The family are members of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, of which church Mr. Fisk is one of the trustees.

CHARLES W. G. E. SCHIPPER (deceased) was born at Oldenburg, North Germany, March 20, 1838. He was prepared for college, intending to study medicine, but on account of delicate health he was compelled to change his mind, and entered a commercial school. After completing his commercial course, he went to Bremen, where he was employed as a clerk, and later as bookkeeper, for a period of six years, in one of the largest banking houses in that city. In 1859 Mr. Schipper located in New York City, where he filled similar positions with various prominent banking establishments. After having thoroughly acquainted himself with American mercantile methods, he established himself and opened a banking and brokerage house with a Mr. Frank, under the firm name of Frank & Schipper. The firm was subsequently dissolved, and in 1876 Mr. Schipper entered as a partner in the firm of H. E. Moring & Co., at that time one of the largest exporting and importing sugar houses in New York. At the death of his partner, the firm was changed to Smith & Schipper, which subsequently became known as one of the largest and most extensive commission houses, and having extensive connections with almost every part of the business world. Mr. Schipper was highly esteemed, and was a prominent figure among the business men of New York. He always figured prominently

among the best German element of his adopted country. He was an active member and a generous supporter of numerous German and American societies and benevolent organizations, prominent among which were the German Club, the German Liederkranz, and German Hospital of New York. He was also a member of the Lutheran Church of New York City. Mr. Schipper had been a resident of Plainfield for twenty-four years prior to the time of his death, and while enjoying the quiet life his home afforded him, he was much interested in the benevolent institutions in the city, and was prominently connected with Muhlenberg Hospital, of which he was a generous supporter. On September 13, 1864, he married Frances Mary Bessen, whose death occurred on September 22, the same year. Mr. Schipper was universally beloved by all who had the honor of his friendship and acquaintance.

HERMANN ALFRED STREULI (deceased) was born at Hargen, Switzerland, December 4, 1849. He received a careful education in the schools of Zurich, after which he took a collegiate course. In 1866 Mr. Streuli came to America and located in Philadelphia, where he engaged in the manufacture of silk ribbons. He was one of the pioneer manufacturers of silk in this country. He continued to reside in Philadelphia until 1879, at which time he removed to Plainfield, N. J. On January 6, 1897, Mr. Streuli died at Rheinfelden, Switzerland, in the home of his son, Ferdinand. He is survived by three children—Alfred Francis, Ferdinand Emil, and Caroline Frederica Tracy. Mr. Streuli was a member of the Union County Country Club. He was more of a domestic man in his tastes, preferring the society of his family to that of club life and the excitement appertaining thereto.

REV. DAVID JOHN YERKES, pastor of the First Baptist church of Plainfield, N. J., was born in Montgomery



REV. DAVID J. YERKES.

county, Pa., in 1825, being the son of Joseph B. and Hannah (John) Yerkes, and a descendant of one of the original white settlers of Pennsylvania, in which State the ancestors of the Yerkes family purchased lands from William Penn's agents, in both Montgomery and Philadelphia counties. On the maternal side, Dr. Yerkes' ancestors, the John and Vaughan families, were prominent on account of the part taken by them in the Revolutionary war. Dr. Yerkes, after preparing for college, entered Columbia University, at Washington, D. C., graduating therefrom in 1848, receiving the degree of D.D. He began his theological studies in Philadelphia and in 1849 was ordained a minister of the gospel. He entered upon his first pastoral work at Hollidaysburg, Pa., where he remained for seven years. Receiving a call from the First Baptist church at Pittsburg, Pa., the following four years were spent in ministerial duties in that city. His next call was to the First Baptist church in Brooklyn, N. Y. In 1863 Dr. Yerkes accepted a call from the First Baptist church of Plainfield, where he has since labored and greatly endeared himself to his congregation and the people in general. He is the oldest pastor in that city, and is widely known throughout the country as an able theologian. When Dr. Yerkes assumed the pastorate of his church in Plainfield it had a membership of two hundred and fifty-eight. It has steadily increased, and its membership is now nearly one thousand souls, being one of the strongest in Plainfield. In 1850 Dr. Yerkes married Miss Sarah E. Taylor, a member of a prominent family of Saratoga, N. Y. They have six children now living: Clara, wife of Charles H. Smith, of Plainfield; Ida K.; Joseph B.; Alice, wife of Walter McGee, of Plainfield; Hannah, wife of W. N. Flanders, of Greenville, N. C., and Grace S.

THE REV. THOMAS LOGAN MURPHY, a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was born in Pittsburg, Pa., on October 30, 1839. He was the only child of John and Mary Murphy. After leaving college, he received his theological training at the Philadelphia Divinity School. He was ordained to the Diaconate by the Right Rev. William Bacon Stevens, on December 20, 1865, and immediately thereafter became assistant minister at Grace church, Philadelphia. On September 26, 1866, he was ordained Priest by the Right Rev. William Henry Odenheimer, in St. Mary's church, Burlington, N. J. In the fall of the same year he became rector of Calvary Church, at Tamaqua, Pa. On July 17, 1867, he married Miss Annie Elizabeth Mixsell, only daughter of David Mixsell, a wealthy and prominent citizen of Easton, Pa. In the fall of 1868 he was called to the rectorship of Zion Church, Newport, R. I.; and after a rectorship of several years he accepted a call to Christ church, Fitchburg, Mass.; and on February 14, 1877, he became rector of the Church of the Holy Cross, North Plainfield, and so continued until July 1, 1899, when, on account of ill-health, he resigned, and sailed for Europe with his wife and daughter. He has three children—Clarence Logan, born in Tamaqua, Pa.; Annie Mixsell, born in Newport, R. I., and Arthur, born in Plainfield, N. J. During his long rectorship in this city the Rev. Mr. Murphy has acquired the respect and friendship of his fellow citizens. He is known as an earnest and eloquent preacher and a man of excellent judgment and force of character.

REV. P. E. SMYTH was born in Ireland in 1841. After his graduation from the Diocesan Seminary in Cavan in 1859 he entered the Royal College of Maynooth and completing the usual theological course of five years was ordained priest in 1864. In 1870 he was appointed by the late Archbishop Bayley

to establish a parish in Warren county, New Jersey, comprising the districts of Washington, Oxford, and Belvidere. He was afterwards pastor of churches in Madison and Jersey City, and in 1883 came to St. Mary's church, Plainfield.

REV. WILLIAM H. MILLER, rector of St. Joseph's church, North Plainfield, was born in Middlesex county, New Jersey. After finishing his studies in the public schools he entered St. Francis Xavier's College, New York city, where he pursued the classics and higher branches and then went to Seton Hall College, South Orange, New Jersey, where he studied philosophy, and graduated in 1884. His theological course was made at the seminary of the Immaculate Conception, South Orange, and at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore; he was ordained to the priesthood by Cardinal Gibbons in the Baltimore Cathedral, December 17, 1887. Shortly after his ordination he was appointed assistant to Vicar-General Kelly at South Amboy, and after two years he was sent to assist Dean O'Grady, rector of St. Peter's church, New Brunswick, New Jersey, where he remained until he was appointed pastor of St. Joseph's church, April 17, 1893, by the late Bishop O'Farrell.

WALTER SCOTT, proprietor of the Scott Printing Machine Works, Plainfield, N. J., was born in Scotland, May 22, 1844. He was educated at the Ayr Academy, studied theoretical and applied mechanics, machine designing and learned the machine business. In 1869 he visited the principal cities in the United States and settled in Chicago. In 1884 he built the extensive works in Plainfield, N. J., in which city he now resides. Mr. Scott has a national reputation as an inventor and builder of printing and folding machinery. In 1874 he commenced to construct and improve such machines. He made the first combined machine to feed from a roll of paper, print, cut, paste and fold newspapers in book form, delivering them counted in packs of 25 and 50. He also made the first web machine in this country to print in five colors and deliver the product in book form. His first patents were taken out in 1855. His inventions followed so rapidly that the Commissioner of Patents in his report for 1900 mentioned Mr. Scott as one of the thirty-nine inventors who had been granted more than one hundred patents each in twenty-six years. Mr. Scott had obtained one hundred and fifty-six United States patents in twenty years. His energy and ingenuity have not abated, his patents and applications for patents now numbering two hundred and forty-two. Mr. Scott's inventions have not been confined to a few kinds of machines; they cover the whole range of printing machinery, stereotype, electrotypes and other machinery connected with printing. He has made a reputation for himself and his machinery which shall endure long after he is laid at rest. Mr. Scott's success may be attributed not only to his genius, but also to his ability as a mechanic and business man. He not only conceives the inventions, but attends to design and construction with an exactness of precision which is astonishing even to those skilled in the art, at the same time attending assiduously to the business interests of the concern. Mr. Scott is a tall, portly gentleman, with a dignified bearing. He is fair-minded, generous, and a steadfast friend. To know him is to respect and esteem him.

JAMES SCOTT NEGLEY is a descendant of a patrician Swiss family who settled in Germany during one of their country's religious wars. Subsequently they emigrated to America and became pioneers in western Pennsylvania. One of the brothers accompanied the forces of Washington



when he joined General Braddock prior to his defeat. Three of the Negley brothers participated in the Seven Years' War and settled, at its close, a few miles each of old (French) Fort Duquesne. They actively identified themselves with the development of Alleghany county, and became large land owners in the vicinity of Pittsburg. General James S. Negley, only son of Jacob Negley, Jr., was born December 22, 1826, at the home of his parents in East Liberty, known at present as the East End of Pittsburg. His education primarily was obtained in the public schools of his district and later at the Western University. He joined the "Duquesne Grays" in his seventeenth year and enlisted in that company when it became part of the First Pennsylvania Regiment, recruited for the war with Mexico. His family strenuously opposed his departure, and invoked the aid of the courts to detain him on the plea that he was a minor; but, persevering in his determination, he left with his company and regiment and participated in the siege and capture of Vera Cruz and in the battles of Cerro Gordo, La Perote, Las Vegas, La Hoya, Huamantle, siege of Puebla, and a number of lesser engagements. During the heroic siege of Puebla his family applied to and secured from the Secretary of War an honorable discharge from the service of the United States. A copy of this discharge reached him simultaneously with the issuance of an order for his command to march to the aid of General Scott in the City of Mexico. He indignantly refused the proffered discharge and remained in active service with his company until the treaty of peace was signed and the last detachment of United States troops departed from the City of Mexico. After his discharge from the army, he engaged in manufacturing pursuits, devoting his spare hours to horticulture, in which field he soon attained distinction, and he is still recognized as one of the most skillful horticulturists in the country. His home is embellished with rare species of decorative plants and the newest varieties of fruits and flowers. He was chosen, by a unanimous vote, brigadier-general of the eighteenth division of the State Militia of Pennsylvania. He was one of the most zealous and influential advocates for the improvement and stability of the Pennsylvania Militia. His influence and efforts to better the organization and equipment of the volunteer soldiery of his State were most effective. His military instincts and experience led him to believe that the government would, in the near future, be forced to resent and suppress the aggressive and rebellious spirit of the slave-holders of the South. In December, 1860, he formally offered the services of his division to the State authorities, stating that he would respond to a requisition for troops in twenty-four hours. On the 18th of April, 1861, a telegram from Governor Curtin requested a conference in Harrisburg. At that interview he was authorized to organize and equip a brigade of volunteers in western Pennsylvania. Within ten days he organized, clothed and equipped two full regiments and accompanied the third to the capital. He joined the corps of General Patterson and remained with it during the Shenandoah campaign. During the battle of Falling Waters he followed the retreating forces of General (Stonewall) Jackson to Martinsburg, and raised a regimental flag in sight of the enemy, who were then hurriedly marching out on the Winchester pike. General Patterson was strongly urged by General Negley to allow him to cut the Confederate lines of communication between Winchester and Bull Run and thereby prevent the concentration of the rebel forces at either point. General Patterson accepted his suggestion and ordered him to break camp and move forward; through some mysterious influence, his orders were countermanded, and his troops retraced their steps. This grave error of

judgment was responsible for the defeat of the United States forces at Bull Run. After his three months' service, General Negley was recommissioned brigadier-general and placed temporarily in command of the volunteer camp near Harrisburg. During his stay at this camp he organized, clothed and equipped a brigade of three regiments of infantry and a battery of field artillery. In the autumn of 1861 he was ordered to Pittsburg and to hold his troops in readiness to join General Rosecrans in West Virginia. On arriving at Pittsburg, he was directed by the President to proceed with the utmost celerity to Louisville to reinforce General Sherman's small army. Within six days he engaged a flotilla of six steamboats, fitted them out with stores, embarked his entire command and hastened to Louisville, arriving at a critical juncture. When General Carlos Buell superseded General Sherman, General Negley's brigade formed part of his advance column to accomplish the capture of the city of Nashville. Subsequently General Negley was ordered with his brigade to Columbia, Tenn. He was charged with the duty to keep open the lines of communication with General Buell at Pittsburg Landing, General Mitchell at Huntsville, also to protect the lines of railroad from Nashville to the Tennessee river. He was singularly successful in executing this onerous task. He maneuvered his troops with skill, foresight and dash, defeating the enemy in actions at Santa Fé, Rogersville, Florence and Sweden's Cove. At the latter place he surprised the Confederate forces under General Adams, killed and captured a large number, scattering the remainder in disorder through the mountains. He shelled the enemy out of Chattanooga, but was unable to hold the best results of his expedition, General Buell refusing reinforcements. When General Bragg's forces invaded Kentucky, General Buell and his entire command, excepting the division of General Negley, left Nashville. General Thomas was assigned to command. A few days later Thomas was ordered to join General Buell. General Negley was placed in command of the city, with 6,000 sick and wounded troops, with a limited supply of provisions and forage, and incomplete works of defense. General Negley immediately altered the engineer's plans, reduced the lines of circumvallation so that the city could be defended by his small army. The garrison was relieved by General Rosecrans on the morning of the 20th of October. During the siege, the utmost vigilance was required both day and night. There was persistent and incessant fighting to obtain supplies from the neighboring country, also to save the garrison from capture. Although the forces of Generals Breckinridge, Forrest, Morgan, Scott, Anderson and Dibble were constantly harassing his forces on all sides, they failed to surprise or capture a detachment of his men or seize a forage train. On the other hand, he surprised and defeated a portion of Breckinridge's command at Laverne on October 7, 1862, and a few days later engaged and defeated the entire force of Breckinridge and Forrest, near Overtons. His division was in the forefront and center of the great battle of Stone river. For three days and nights, amid ice and snow, he kept at bay the corps of the Confederate generals, Withers and Cheatham. To illustrate General Negley's heroic services, we quote the following account of this battle from Bates' "Martial Deeds of Pennsylvania": "Early in the morning of the 31st of December, 1862, General Rosecrans met the rebel army under General Bragg in front of Murfreesboro at Stone river. General McCook, with the divisions of Generals Johnson, Davis and Sheridan, held the right of the Union line, General Thomas, with the divisions of Generals Negley and Rousseau, the latter in reserve, held the center,





*Chas. S. Negley*

MAJOR GENERAL U. S. VOLUNTEERS

*New Jersey Historical Publishing Co*



and General Crittenden, with the divisions of Generals Palmer, Wood and Van Cleve, held the Union left. With massed columns, the rebel general attacked the Union right just at the moment that General Rosecrans was about to attack from the Union left. The latter's right wing was crushed and driven before help could reach it. General Negley stood next with his splendid division and made a stubborn fight. A writer in the 'Rebellion Record' says: 'Pushing out to the cedar forest, where this gallant division was struggling against great odds, General Sheridan was met, bringing out his division in superb order. During all this time General Negley's command was holding its line, though fearfully outnumbered. When the right broke, the latter pushed in ahead of the right wing and was driving the enemy. His troops sustained one of the fiercest assaults of the day, and the enemy was severely punished. On the afternoon of the following day the fighting was renewed on the Union left, upon the other side of the river, and the foe was again driving the center. At this juncture General Negley's division, supported by that of Davis and St. Clair Morton's pioneer battalion, was immediately pushed forward to retrieve the disaster. A sanguinary conflict ensued, perhaps the most bitter of the whole battle. Both sides massed their batteries and plied them with desperate energy. The infantry of either side displayed great valor, but Negley's unconquerable Eighth Division resolved to win. The fury of the conflict now threatened mutual annihilation; but both brigades charged simultaneously and drove the enemy under Breckinridge from their intrenchments, capturing a battery and the flag of the Twenty-sixth Tennessee.' Another writer, describing the fierceness of Friday's battle, said: "It was a trying situation for Negley's men. Hugging close to the ground, they lay, eight regiments and remnants saved out of Wednesday's fight, viz.: Stanley's brigade—the Eighteenth and Sixty-ninth Ohio, Eleventh Michigan and the Nineteenth Illinois (the 'Bloody Nineteenth'); Miller's brigade—the Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania; Thirty-seventh Indiana, Seventy-fourth Ohio, Parson Moody's 'Boys' and the Twenty-first Ohio (Neibling's 'Twenty-onesters'). Before their eyes, coming down the slope, the foe was driving the beaten left in confusion and with great loss. The disorganized troops, plunging into the stream, came on, stepping over the men of Negley's line and on to the rear. The Twenty-first Ohio lay directly abreast of the ford, in the most trying position. But not a man flinched, either from the shot now pouring down the slope upon them or from the disorganizing influence of the routed troops. But they eagerly awaited the order to charge. It came, but not until the victorious enemy had reached the opposite bank, some getting even into the water. Such perished in the murderous fire Negley suddenly opened, for from a point below I saw several rebel bodies floating. Following the volley, Negley's whole line sprang over the bank into the stream, and fell upon the foe. Nothing could have withstood that onset. The rebels first halted, then staggered, then slowly settled back, and, as Negley's men gained the other side, they sullenly shrank back up the slope, but most stubbornly resisting every step. I went to the spot the other day where the commander of this brave division was much of that afternoon. It was not only under the rebel Napoleon guns, but was where the wave of Van Cleve's broken ranks struck against the high bank, flying across the stream. I was making my way to the massed artillery on the hill when I first saw him. He was attempting to rally these men. I shall never forget his anxious, earnest face, nor his cheering words. 'Fall in, men,' he would say. 'Do you not see that my men have stopped

the enemy? Fall in here, and we shall shortly win a glorious victory.' For personal valor and skillful generalship displayed in winning this signal victory, General Negley was promoted to the rank of major-general of volunteers. General Rosecrans, in his special recommendation for this promotion, referred to General Negley in the following words: "Brigadier-General James S. Negley has commanded a division nearly a year, always maintaining strict discipline and keeping his command in excellent condition. As commander of the post at Nashville, he fortified and protected the city in a most judicious manner. While cut off from communication, without support from our forces, in Kentucky, and surrounded by a diligent enemy, he subsisted upon their country and made successful sorties upon them, at one time routing a large force at Laverne, Tenn. At the battle of Stone river he fought his troops obstinately, and handled them with consummate skill, winning a high reputation for courage and generalship and contributing largely to the success of our arms." Captain Bickham, one of General Rosecrans' staff officers, writing to the Cincinnati Gazette, referred to General Negley's division in the following complimentary terms: "Negley was in the thick darkness with his noble Eighth Division, beating back the relentless tide. Johnson appeared, too, with the remnant of his command. Rousseau was sent into the fiery cauldron to extricate his struggling division comrade. . . . The lines had been broken at every point on the right. The center, under Negley, struggling fiercely, must be swallowed up; the left and all would be gone unless the destroying tide could be stayed. No one could do it save he, though all were fighting manfully. . . . Negley, unprotected on his right, was fighting an overwhelming enemy on three sides of him, and he was holding them stubbornly; Rousseau was receding. . . . The division lost heavily. The regiments composing it robbed themselves with honor. When Negley came out, the enemy followed him fiercely, but he turned at bay, and, with Rousseau, gave them a bitter repulse. . . . When the glorious Eighth Division retired from the forest its ammunition was exhausted, a third of its original force was *hors du combat*, and most of the artillery horses were killed. Every inch of ground over which it retreated was strewn with the dead and mangled. Like Sheridan's division, it waded through fire without breaking, and the men marched proudly among their companions in arms to take a new position. . . ." Another correspondent spoke of him as follows: "General Negley loves order, method and organization. His command is kept in a high state of efficiency, fully supplied with rations and in readiness to move on short notice. His orders are conspicuous for clearness and precision. His ability to know and follow the movements of the enemy is a noted characteristic of his generalship. He is ever alert in providing for the comfort of his men. Their splendid condition and fighting qualities testify to his efforts in their behalf." After the battle of Stone river, General Negley's division led the forward movement upon Tullahoma. He engaged the rear of Bragg's army in its hasty retreat across Elk river and the Cumberland Mountains. Dislodged Bragg's forces from Lookout Mountain and Stevens Gap, and drove them beyond Davis Crossroads, and executed successfully, with a small loss, the withdrawal of his command when nearly enveloped by two corps of Bragg's army. He was the first general officer who apprised Generals Thomas and Rosecrans of the purpose of General Bragg to attack and overwhelm the army of General Rosecrans in detail, while McCook was fruitlessly attempting to turn Bragg's left. General Negley's insistence that General Bragg was not retreating, but, on the contrary, was concen-

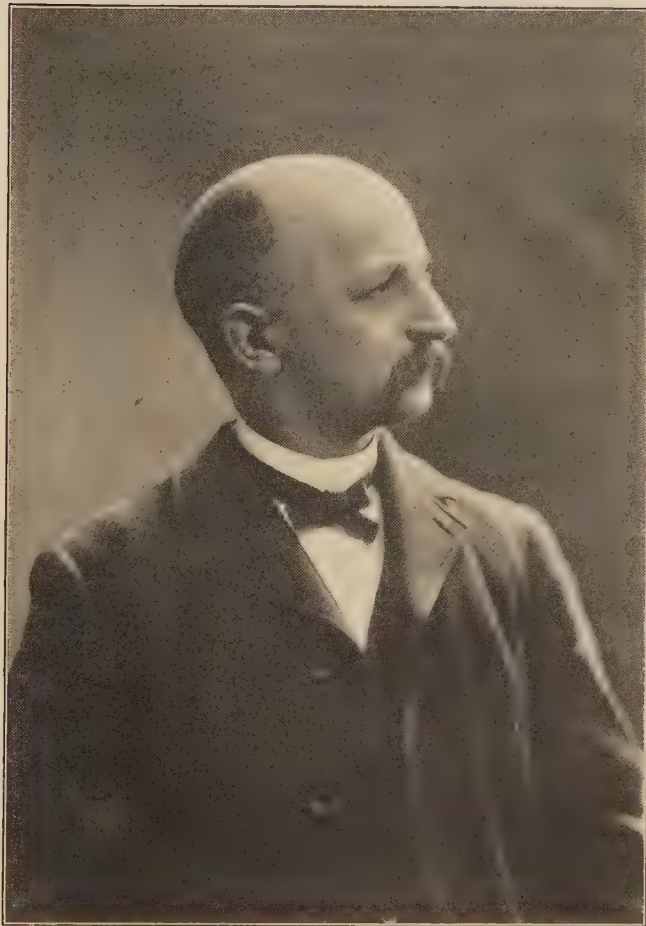


trating his army to give battle, was strongly disputed by General Rosecrans during a personal interview with General Negley at the foot of Lookout Mountain. Happily, the arrival of Johnson, one of General Negley's scouts, confirmed his opinion and convinced General Rosecrans that he had been deceived by advices and reports from some of the other commanders. General Negley's services during the battle of Chickamauga were conspicuous for tireless energy and the successful withdrawal of some sixty pieces of artillery abandoned by the disorganization of the right wing of General Rosecrans' army. The transfer and separation of his brigades through dilatory movements of General T. J. Wood, General Negley was unjustly deprived of much of the credit which was due him for the highly creditable services rendered in this great battle. After resigning his commission in the army, he became an active leader in Pennsylvania politics, and held a number of important positions by appointment. In 1868 he was elected a representative from the Twenty-second Congressional District of Pennsylvania by a majority of nearly 5,000 votes. His predecessor was a Democrat. He was elected again to the Forty-second Congress by a handsome majority; was re-elected to the Forty-fourth Congress. At the end of this term he became actively engaged in the promotion and construction of railroads. He was nominated and elected to the Forty-ninth Congress. During his services in Congress he was an influential member of the Committee of Military Affairs, Commerce, Mines and Mining, and Pacific Railroads. The present deep-water harbor at Pittsburg was due to his foresight and efforts in obtaining the first appropriation for its construction. During a period of fifteen years he was one of the managers of the National Homes for Volunteers, and was instrumental in establishing two of these homes. For a number of years he was president of the National Union League of America, a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, of the Veteran Legion, Scott Legion, Military Order of Foreign Wars, National Board of Steam Navigation, Shipping League of New York, and the Masonic fraternity. He has also filled the offices of president and vice-president of a number of railroads, which were incorporated and built under his management. General Negley has a florid, healthy complexion, of robust form, within an inch of being six feet in height. In manner and temperament he is full of energy, brain power and great endurance. A fearless rider, he is splendidly mounted at all times. He was twice married; his first wife was a Miss Kate DeLosey, niece of Commodore Van Voorhees. No children by his first wife are living. His second wife was a Miss Grace Ash-ton, of Philadelphia, who, with three daughters, constitute his present family.

FRANK AUSTIN BARNABY, real estate operator, was born April 21, 1859, at Boston Mass. He received his education in the public schools of Philadelphia, Pa. In 1894 Mr. Barnaby located his residence at Plainfield, where he has spent a portion of each year ever since. He has been an extensive real estate dealer since 1879, his office being located at No. 149 Broadway, New York City. Mr. Barnaby is a member of the Brooklyn Club, Baltusrol Club, the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club, and the Colnia Club. On February 7, 1893, he married Mrs. John H. Evans, of Plainfield, N. J.

JOSEPH W. REINHART, railroad president and financial and corporation expert, born Sept. 17, 1851, in Pittsburg, Pa., is the son of the late Aaron Grantley Reinhart, by occupation a merchant, and the late Katherine McHenry,

his wife, both descended from old families in Pennsylvania, Kentucky and Maryland. Tutored in the Western University of Pennsylvania, at the age of eighteen Mr. Reinhart became a clerk for the division superintendent of the Alleghany Valley Railroad, at Pittsburg, and by his ability, integrity and strict attention to business soon rose to great prominence in the field of railroad transportation. By hard labor and intelligence of mind, he gained promotion, and, in 1875-80, was advanced to the position of superintendent of rolling stock of that road. He grasped the requirements of railroading intuitively and soon became known as a thoroughly competent railroad man. During 1880-83 he served as auditor for the Richmond & Alleghany Railroad, at Richmond, Va., which position he filled with such ability that, in 1883-86, he was made General Auditor of the New York, West Shore & Buffalo Railway, with offices in New York city, and the following year for the receivers of the road. During 1886-87 he was General Passenger and Ticket Agent of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway, at Chicago. His services in this position reflected increased credit upon him, and in 1887 he established his headquarters in New York city as a railroad expert in the service of many different corporations. Nov. 1, 1888, under contract with important foreign and American financial interests, Mr. Reinhart became associated with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad system, with offices in Boston, as expert and as General Auditor. It was upon his recommendation that the then scattered properties of that great aggregation of capital were brought together under practically one central management, thereby saving to the parent or controlling company many hundreds of thousands of dollars per annum in operating expenses alone. Under authority and direction of the board of directors, Mr. Reinhart personally carried out the whole and complete detail of this great work. As General Auditor and Vice-President of the company, he formulated in 1889 the plan for financial reorganization of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad, and carried it out with such success that the company, recognizing his sagacity and foresight, advanced him through different stages to the presidency in 1893 of the following corporations: The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company; The Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway Company; St. Louis & San Francisco Railway Company; Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Company; Colorado Midland Railway Company; Wichita & Western Railroad Company; Southern California Railway Company; New Mexico & Atchison Railway Company; Rio Grande & El Paso Railroad Company, and the Sonora Railway Company, Ltd. Mr. Reinhart resigned these offices in the fall of 1894, owing to ill health and over-work. After a rest of two years he became interested in the development of the South and since then has been largely interested in railroads and iron properties in that section. His abilities in organization and concentration, for effective and economical results, of great forces and large bodies of men, led to his selection in 1893, by the United States Government, as chief expert of the commission to revise the methods of the Departments in Washington. He was given full power of selection of his assistants and the results of the work of his small corps of experts is an annual saving to the United States of over \$600,000 per annum in the expense of carrying on the vast work of the Government. He was married October 21, 1875, at Sewickley, Pa., to Miss Lizzie Taylor Allison, and his children are Caroline Allison, Katherine McHenry, Mary Anderson and Francis Ormond Reinhart. He is a member of many prominent clubs and organizations throughout the country,



FRANK BERGEN.  
President of Plainfield Water Company.



WILLIAM CURRY STANBERY.





WILLIAM RUNYON STANBERY



including the Lawyers', New York, Players' and National Arts Clubs; the American Geographical Society and the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Mecca Temple of the Mystic Shrine, all of New York city; the Baltusrol and Hillside Golf Clubs, and Trinity Commandery, Knights Templar, of New Jersey; the Deep Run Hunt and Commonwealth Clubs, of Richmond, Va., and the Piedmont Club, of Atlanta, Ga.

ABRAHAM HERBERT LEWIS, A. M., D. D., was born at Scott, New York, November 17, 1836, being the only son of Datus Ensign and Tacy Maxson Lewis, both of whom were of genuine New England stock. In 1846 the family emigrated to what was then the territory of Wisconsin. Dr. Lewis studied at Ripon and Milton colleges, in Wisconsin, and later at Alfred university and Union Theological seminary, in New York. His first pastorate was at Westerly, Rhode Island, 1864-7. Between that time and 1880 he was pastor in New York City, Shiloh, New Jersey, and Alfred, N. Y. He was also professor of church history, resident and non-resident, at Alfred University for more than twenty years. In 1880 he became pastor of the Seventh-Day Baptist church at Plainfield, and continued as such until October, 1896. From the time he left college Dr. Lewis was a prolific writer, especially on historic subjects. During his pastorate in Plainfield he visited Europe twice—in 1889 especially for literary investigation in London, and in Germany. He is the author of several books, among which are the following: "Biblical Teachings Concerning the Sabbath and the Sunday," "A Critical History of the Sabbath and the Sunday in the Christian Church," "Critical History of Sunday Legislation," and "Paganism Surviving in Christianity." Dr. Lewis was chosen to present a paper on the Sabbath question before the World's Congress of Religions, at Chicago, in 1893. He has a national reputation as a representative of the Seventh-Day Baptists, who believe that the decay of Sunday observance will compel the Christian world to return to the observance of the seventh day, according to the Bible, the example of Christ and the earliest Christians. Dr. Lewis is a reformer by nature and training; he is well known as a writer and speaker on social-purity reform. His resignation from the pastorate of the Plainfield church, in 1896, was that he might become the corresponding secretary of the American Sabbath Tract Society, thus giving his whole time to the work of Sabbath reform in the United States. In this relation he continues both literary and field work. His wife was Agusta Melissa Johnson, a native of Rhode Island. They have a family of five daughters and one son; the latter, Edwin Herbert Lewis, Ph. D., is a professor in the University of Chicago. During the pastorate of Dr. Lewis, the Plainfield church erected its present house of worship, of stone and terra-cotta, which is, in several respects, the finest church building in New Jersey. On the paternal side, Dr. Lewis comes from several generations of soldiers—Lewises and Greens. His great-grandfather, for whom he is named, was Capt. Abraham Lewis, of the Revolution. On the maternal side, he comes from a line of writers and theologians—Maxsons and Blisses, of Newport, Rhode Island.

WILLIAM RUNYON STANBERY, silk manufacturer, was born at Scotch Plains, N. J., December 29, 1857, being the son of William Curry and Eliza A. (Runyon) Stanbery. He received a careful education at Dr. Pingry's private school in Elizabeth, after which he entered Rutgers College at New Brunswick. Mr. Stanbery is engaged in the

silk manufacturing industry in Plainfield, being a director in and the general manager of the Watchung silk mills, located at No. 320 West Front street. He is a member of the Chi Phi College Secret, and of Fanwood Council, Royal Arcanum. Politically, he is a Democrat, and is at present the assessor of Fanwood borough, a position he has continuously filled for the past six years. On Tuesday, February 10, 1891 (being the same day of the week and the same date of the month that his parents were married, therefore it so happened that it was his parents' forty-fifth anniversary), Mr. Stanbery married Miss Margaret Clendennen Field, of Plainfield. They have one child, a son, William Field Stanbery. Mr. and Mrs. Stanbery reside at Fanwood, N. J., one mile from the old Stanbery homestead, at Scotch Plains, N. J.

WILLIAM CURRY STANBERY, one of the oldest and best-known citizens, was born at Scotch Plains, N. J., June 17, 1822. His ancestors originally came from England early in the eighteenth century; the first, Recompense Stanbery, grandfather of the subject of this sketch, died at Scotch Plains, May 20, 1777, in his sixty-seventh year. His son, Recompense, 2d, and father of William Curry Stanbery, was born at Scotch Plains September 23, 1758, and died there September 3, 1839. The subject of this sketch was an only son by a fourth marriage. Recompense Stanbery was a soldier in the War of the Revolution. He participated in the battle of Long Island, where he received a serious wound in one of his legs. The bullet which caused the wound is now in the possession of the family, as well as the old flintlock musket and the pistol he carried. After recovering from his wound, he was made a sergeant of the dragoons, and subsequently was promoted to the rank of colonel of infantry of the State of New Jersey. After the close of the Revolutionary War, Recompense Stanbery retired to his old home at Scotch Plains, where he built the house now occupied by William Curry Stanbery. The main part of the house is as it was, when originally occupied May 1, 1801—one hundred years ago—except some modern improvements on the exterior, but the same frame enclosure, which is of cedar weather-boards, is still there, as well as walls, etc. In all that period the property has never been mortgaged or otherwise encumbered. William Curry Stanbery, although nearly eighty years of age, is still active and in good health. He can be seen almost any day upon the streets of Plainfield, looking after his business interests. He has always been a Democrat, and was for twelve years, successively, assessor and collector of Westfield township, when that territory included Scotch Plains, Cranford and Westfield. During the Rebellion he filled the quota of Westfield township successfully. On Tuesday, February 10, 1846, Mr. Stanbery married Eliza A., daughter of Abram Runyon, of New Jersey, and a sister of Theodore Runyon, late Ambassador to Germany. One child, William Runyon Stanbery, was born to the union.

CHARLES E. BUELL, son of Joseph Case Buell and Mary Kellogg Buell, was born at Wolcottville-Torrington, Connecticut, May 4, 1841, and became a resident of North Plainfield, New Jersey, in 1889. He received his education in the public schools, and at the Wesleyan academy, at Wilbraham, Massachusetts, where his early life was passed, and from which town he entered the service of his country in the civil war; having enlisted in the three months' service as early as April 27, 1861, and in June of the same year re-enlisted for three years in the Tenth regiment of Massachusetts volunteers, serving until April 23, 1863, when he



was honorably discharged. Owing to injuries received in the war, he was unable to follow the avocation of a farmer, as before enlistment, and entered the telegraph service, in which he advanced to the most responsible positions, and in later years engaged in line construction, being a superintendent of construction. In the years 1872-1880 he was connected with the car department of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad. In the last-named year he accepted a position in the Tenth United States census as expert statistician in the preparation of financial statistics of railroads, and subsequently was placed in charge of gathering and tabulating the statistics of the systems of telegraph and of the telephone for the Tenth census, and in this connection he prepared an exhaustive history of the telephone for the Government. In the Eleventh United States census he was appointed chief of the sixth division engaged in gathering and tabulating statistics of religious bodies throughout the United States. In 1898 he visited Porto Rico as the secretary of the United States Special Commission to Porto Rico, and was engaged in the investigation of the affairs in that island during the first six months after its formal occupation, assisting in the formulating of the most important changes that followed the supplanting of monarchy by the republic in Porto Rico, and in the gathering and arrangement of the facts relating to the classification of the population, the religious and industrial conditions, the local governments, prisons and legal methods, marriage customs, schools, the geography and the resources of the island. Mr. Buell is the inventor and patentee of valuable apparatus relating to telephone systems, to the generation and the storage of electricity, and to automatic sprinklers and fire alarms, his inventions being widely used. He is a member of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, and a writer on industrial topics.

HENRY MARTIN MAXSON, son of the late Jonathan and Matilda (Wilcox) Maxson, is descended from genuine New England Seventh-Day Baptist Puritan ancestry. He was born at Westerly, R. I., March 28, 1853. His education was secured at the Westerly High School, Alfred University and Amherst College, from which institution he graduated in 1877. He entered at once upon the vocation of teaching and has had a wide experience in school work from that time forward. This experience has been in schools of various grades in the States of New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Jersey. He was called to the superintendency of the schools of the city of Plainfield, N. J., from his position as superintendent of the school system at Pawtucket, R. I., where about 150 teachers were employed. Mr. Maxson combines prominent elements of success in an unusual degree. Among these are candor, carefulness, thoroughness and persistency. He works without haste, and equally without loss of time through mistakes and uncertainty. He is at the present time a prominent factor in the various educational movements in the State of New Jersey and elsewhere. He is a popular and efficient speaker, though his manner is quiet and his style concise, and his services are sought in connection with important educational movements throughout New England and elsewhere. Since coming to New Jersey he has been prominent in building up the State Teachers' Association, of which he was president in 1898, when he arranged for one of the largest and most popular meetings of the association which it has ever held. His work is especially valuable to teachers, both as to instruction in methods and as to the spirit and purpose with which their work is to be done. Under his superintendency the High School of Plainfield has been advanced to the first

rank. It now sends pupils to nearly all the colleges and universities in the East, and wherever they enter they soon secure the credit of being among the best prepared students, and are therefore able to rank well up, if not with the very first, in college and university studies. On three occasions within six years past, graduates of this high school have won prizes for the best entrance examinations. The course of study in the high school has been broadened, the department of science has been built up, modern languages have been introduced, and a strong commercial department has been created since Mr. Maxson took charge. Another valuable feature of his administration is the system of elective studies, which offers wide and liberal choice to suit the plans and purposes of thoughtful parents who desire to have their children fitted in the best possible way for such lines of lifework as they may choose. This elective system does not reduce the value of the culture attained and is by no means another name for short courses or imperfect work. In the lower schools Mr. Maxson has developed a very flexible system of grading, whereby pupils are advanced to the high school as rapidly as the ability and attainment of each individual will permit. In this he has done much to overcome the unfavorable features of the ordinary system of classifying and grading in primary schools. In the matter of discipline, Mr. Maxson's study and experience have enabled him to modify former systems, so as to make the schoolroom a place of happiness and enjoyment for the child, rather than a place of toil and unpleasant tasks. Aided by a competent corps of teachers, this feature alone has marked Mr. Maxson's administration as of unusual value. Mr. Maxson is also a student of school architecture, and the new Lincoln School building in the city of Plainfield, planned and erected under his oversight, is acknowledged to be one of the best primary school buildings in the State. His efforts in this line recognize the influence and value of proper physical and material surroundings in the earlier years of child life, and their bearing upon the intellectual development and permanent health of young children. His work is marked by one prominent characteristic, namely, his sympathy with childhood and the care with which he determines the best conditions for physical and mental growth, and his persistent and tireless devotion in securing these ends. It is this as much as his erudition and thorough scholarship which has given success to his work. The candor and frankness with which he deals with parents and with his teachers is a large factor in his high and permanent success. While in no sense a dreamer, or builder of air castles, Superintendent Maxson is a man of high ideals and lofty purposes. It is along these lines that he seems to secure, almost without effort, unquestioned loyalty and cordial support from every teacher whose good fortune it is to be his assistant in carrying out the plans which experience and wise judgment formulate.

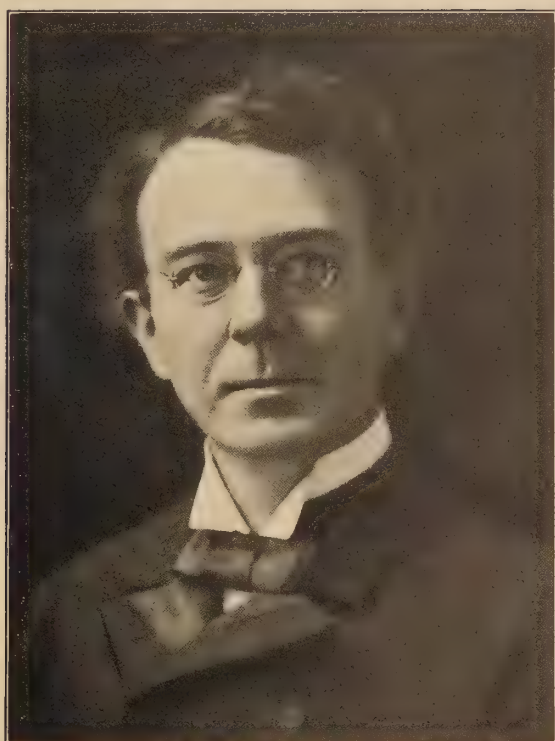
CHARLES J. BAXTER, son of John C. and Mary J. Baxter, was born at Glenwood, Sussex county, N. J., on November 8, 1841. He attended the district school until about twelve years of age, when he went to work on his father's farm, continuing his studies by himself and with the help of an uncle who lived on an adjoining farm. On his eighteenth birthday he began his educational work as a teacher in the district school at Frankford Plains, Sussex county, N. J. When about twenty years of age he enlisted in the War of the Rebellion, filled the position of first sergeant, Company F, Twenty-seventh New Jersey Volunteers, and remained in the service until his regiment was mustered out. He then resumed teaching, and, after twelve years'





*Charles A. Fowler*





HON. FOSTER M. VOORHEES.  
Governor of New Jersey.



HON. ELLIS R. MEEKER,  
Assemblyman Union County.



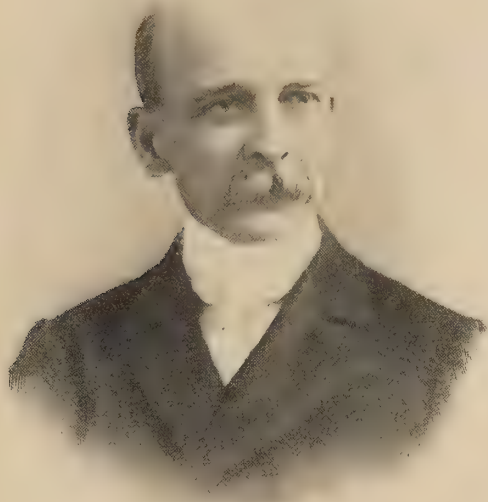
HON. CHARLES SEWARD FOOTE,  
Member of Assembly.





HON. CHESTER M. SMITH.

experience in several district schools, was appointed principal of the school at Franklin Furnace. Mr. Baxter remained in this school thirteen years and gradually improved it until it was outranked by few, if any, schools in the State. In 1875 Mr. Baxter was appointed by the State Board of Education superintendent of the schools of Sussex county, as the successor of W. A. Stiles, former principal of Mount Retirement Seminary, but was rejected by



CHARLES J. BAXTER.

the Democratic Board of Freeholders because of his party affiliations. This started the agitation which resulted in an amendment to the law taking the power of confirmation from Boards of Freeholders throughout the State. He was appointed state superintendent of public instruction by Governor Griggs on March 24, 1896, and re-appointed by Governor Voorhees in March, 1899. Several important educational reforms have been inaugurated and successfully promoted during his administration of the school affairs of the State.

STEPHEN CAHOONE, broker, is a native of Brooklyn, N. Y. For the past thirty years he has resided in Plainfield, where he is well and favorably known. Mr. Cahoon is a member of the New York Stock Exchange and is the senior member of the firm of Cahoon & Westcott, whose offices are located at 18 Wall street, New York City. He is a member of, and an elder in, the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian Church of Plainfield; is president of the Young Men's Christian Association, a member of the Hillside Golf and Tennis Club, and Conanicut Yacht Club. Mr. Cahoon is a Republican, but has never sought any political office.

HON. FOSTER M. VOORHEES, Governor of New Jersey; born at Clinton, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, November 5, 1856, his father being cashier of the bank there established, and who comes of Dutch-English ancestors. The Governor was graduated from Rutgers College in 1876, and studied law at Elizabeth with the Honorable William J. Magie, now chancellor of New Jersey. He was licensed as

an attorney-at-law in 1880 and as a counselor in 1884. His success in his profession was instantaneous and his high standing at the bar is evidenced by the fact that, although of different political faith from the appointing power, he was nominated by Governor Werts in 1894 to the office of circuit court judge. He declined the honor on the ground that he owed his first allegiance to his constituents, who had elected him to the office of Senator. This was during the exciting and memorable session of 1894, and the sacrifice he made in this instance saved the State Senate to the Republican party and made possible the enactment of reform measures of which the Governor himself was the foremost champion. Governor Voorhees has always been an ardent, sincere and conscientious Republican. At the same time, his fairness and conservatism have won for him the admiration of the Independents and Democrats, as well as the members of his own party. He has never been an offensive partisan, and his whole career has been an exemplification of the truth of President Hayes' famous declaration, "He serves his party best who serves his country best." Mr. Voorhees was a school commissioner of Elizabeth for four years, from 1884 to 1888, and during that time was instrumental in inaugurating a number of educational reforms. He was a member of the House of Assembly during the years '88, '89, and '90, and was the leader of the Republican minority in the two latter years, receiving the Republican vote for speaker in both of these sessions. His ability as a parliamentarian and a debator won for him a State reputation. The year 1889 was one of partisan legislation on the part of the Democratic majority, and, notwithstanding the tactics it employed to carry through its measures, Mr. Voorhees so skillfully led the minority that the opposition were even in danger of defeat, and on one occasion the Democrats were compelled to leave their seats in the Assembly and break a quorum in order to save themselves from parliamentary rout. In these trying emergencies he achieved a reputation for wisdom, courage and readiness in action which commanded the respect of his friends and foes alike, and which at once ranked him among the Republican leaders of the State. Indeed, in the year following, the Republican State convention commended by resolution the course of the Republican minority under his leadership. In 1890 Governor Voorhees served as a member of the special committee of the House and Senate to prepare a ballot-reform law. This law to-day bears evidence of his judgment and wisdom. His popularity with the voters was evinced in 1890, when he ran in a district which had given Governor Abbett a plurality of 613, but which he carried by 163; and again in 1893, when he was elected to the Senate from Union county by a plurality of 1,144. In 1894 the Senate was Republican by a majority of one, and the Democrats attempted to control the organization of that body and to prevent a number of the Republican Senators from taking their seats. The forcible seizure of the Senate chamber and the barring of its doors on that occasion are matters of recent history. In this crisis Senator Voorhees, by his counsel and action, averted what might have been a scene of conflict and riot and placed his party in such a position that the supreme court eventually decided the controversy in favor of the Republicans. In the work of reform, which was a conspicuous feature of that session of the Legislature, Senator Voorhees was always courageous, always progressive and always statesmanlike. Notwithstanding the fact that the partisan feeling had been stimulated by the unlawful tactics of the minority, no extreme or retaliatory measures were enacted by the Republican Legislature. This was in marked contrast to the partisan legisla-

tion of the previous years under Democratic control, and was due largely to the influence of Senator Voorhees. In the fall of 1895 his friends urged his name as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor. A gallant fight was made for the young leader from Union, but was unsuccessful, Hon. John W. Griggs receiving the nomination. Senator Voorhees loyally supported his successful competitor during the campaign, and he was then proclaimed by the prophets as the successor of Governor Griggs. In 1896 Governor Griggs offered him the position of clerk in chancery, which he generously declined in order that some of his friends might receive appointments, rather than himself. In 1898 he was elected president of the Senate, without opposition, and upon the appointment of Governor Griggs as Attorney-General of the United States he became Acting-Governor of the State. In that capacity he fulfilled the expectations of his friends. He displayed a courage of conviction and an executive capacity and a devotion to duty that added to his already brilliant reputation as a public man. His administration fell upon troublous times. War was declared with Spain, and he became the war Governor of New Jersey. In this capacity he won new laurels. Following the precedent established by those noble war Governors, Olden and Parker, Governor Voorhees entered enthusiastically into the active work of preparing New Jersey's quota for the war with Spain. Realizing the difficulties that arise in an emergency of this nature, he sought to restrain, by wise and prudent counsel, all whose absence would entail privation and suffering upon those depending upon them for support, and urged others, whose interests were not likely to suffer, to offer their services. He watched with careful scrutiny each detail of the equipment of the force, and endeavored to make efficient organizations of New Jersey's contingent in the service of the United States. His success in this mobilization was quick and pronounced. His care for and interest in the soldiers, however, continued even after they were mustered into service, and he gave his time an influence to the promotion of their welfare and comfort, even after they had left the borders of the State. His long public service and his record as Acting Governor of the State, at once brought him to the front as a prominent candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor, and when the Republican State convention assembled in September, at Trenton, he was selected as the standard-bearer by acclamation, an honor that has fallen on no other man, in recent years, in the State of New Jersey. He was elected by a plurality of 5,499 over Elvin W. Crane, the Democratic candidate, after an exciting campaign.

HON. CHARLES NEWELL FOWLER, representative in Congress from Eighth District of New Jersey, was born at Lena, Illinois, November 2, 1852, and is in the banking business. His earlier years were passed on his father's farm, where he remained until his eighteenth year, when he became a student at Beloit College, Wisconsin. Two years later he entered Yale College, from which he was graduated in 1876. He read law in the office of Williams & Thompson, in Chicago, and attended the Chicago Law School, and was graduated in 1878. Sixteen years ago Mr. Fowler located at Elizabeth, N. J., where he at once engaged in active politics. For some time he has been chairman of the city Republican central committee. He has served as a member-at-large of the Republican State committee since 1898. He took an active part in the campaign for the election of Foster M. Voorhees as Governor. He was elected to a fourth term in Congress in 1900 by a plurality of 9,611 votes. The New York Tribune, in the issue of May 30,

1900, speaking of Mr. Fowler, among other comments, said: "It was in 1894 that Mr. Fowler was first elected to Congress from the Eighth District. The nomination came to him unsought, being tendered to him not only on account of his sterling civic qualities, but in recognition of his stalwart Republicanism, which had done effective work in the campaigns of 1888 and 1892, and of his marked success as a political leader, as evinced by his course as chairman of the Republican city committee of Elizabeth for several years. In the most engrossing period of business cares he had found time for political thought and works. He had been, from his college days at Yale, a close student of economics and a thorough investigator of the laws that govern finance. He recognized the evil tendencies of the day, the ready appeal of the fallacies for inflation, for free silver, for any kind of cheap money, so long as it was plentiful. His prescience perceived before the crisis came that it was the duty of the Republican party to preserve the honor of the country. At the age of forty he felt that he had achieved such a competency as would enable him to carry out the ideals of boyhood, ever fostered amid the tumults of strenuous life; and when this call from his fellow citizens came to him, his nature, broadened by associations with men, responded buoyantly and with ripe powers. In the Fifty-fourth Congress Mr. Fowler received a recognition from Speaker Reed rarely accorded to a new member. He was assigned to the banking and currency committee, whose membership at that time of stress and panic was of national concern. He realized that something was wrong with the fiscal condition of the country; just what the remedy should be, he was unable to tell. It was Mr. Fowler's endeavor to enlighten his associates and the country on the subject of sound money and currency reform. His speech, delivered in the House of Representatives on March 31, 1897, on the text that to secure speedy, general and permanent prosperity our finances should be readjusted and our currency should be reformed was an exposition of monetary principles and their application which has been a mine of reference and resource ever since. In the words of a Senator who is himself a leader in the cause of sound finance, 'It is not a speech; it is a treatise.' This comprehensive and valuable work, comprising a pamphlet of 130 pages, has had a circulation as wide as the country, performing its educational mission in the editorial sanctum, the law office and the counting-room, and proving a veritable textbook for the rostrum. At the time of its delivery, though listened to with attention and sought for future study, it was, in the minds of many of his colleagues, too uncompromising and radical to be practicable in application, and yet in the financial bill passed in January, 1900, three of the four principles advocated by Mr. Fowler—namely, an unequivocal gold standard, the retirement of the demand obligations of the Government and the funding of the debt into 2 per cent. gold bonds—were not only embodied, but the measure contained no other provision of importance, while the fourth principle urged by him—the establishment of a system of credit currency responsive to the requirements of trade—involves the struggle of the future, that struggle of bank issues against Government issues which Mr. Bryan but recently announced had scarcely been begun. A real and effective champion of the national good faith has Mr. Fowler proved, and until commerce is furnished with an elastic and sufficient medium of exchange his efforts in this direction must remain unfinished. It is a good thing for a man in Congress to be associated with an idea, if the idea be a true one, and he himself is so large as not to allow it to overshadow him. Mr. Fowler, from the day of his



speech of March 31, 1897, became identified in the minds of the thoughtful with financial and currency questions, as the lamented Dingley was identified with the kindred questions of tariff and protection. The demands upon him from the country at large have been many and exacting. At Indianapolis, at Atlanta, at Omaha, he has been called upon to maintain the right, and each time he has borne the brunt of the fight and carried the gold standard to victory. His exceptional qualifications as a leader of the sound money party have been recognized by his retention on the banking and currency committee for three terms. Still, Mr. Fowler is not a specialist. Every general question of public polity receives eager inquiry and thoughtful consideration from him. He accepts no snap judgments; to satisfy the long-established habits of his mind he must first thoroughly examine and then comprehensively determine. This conservative, almost judicial, mental process gives weight to Mr. Fowler's views among his associates, and doubtless influenced the speaker in also assigning him, in December, 1899, to the important committees on foreign affairs and on reform in the civil service, committees which demand deliberation, rather than passionate action, and a concert for the public weal, rather than partisanship and prejudice. It is an open secret that Mr. Hitt, the veteran chairman of the foreign affairs committee, a student of men, as he is a master of diplomacy, urged Mr. Fowler's appointment to his committee, recognizing that his services would prove valuable in the discussion and settlement of the many delicate questions arising in our international relations. For years, with voice and pen, Mr. Fowler has urged that practical reform in the United States consular service which would give to the country the benefit of experience, rewarding fidelity and efficiency by retention in office, irrespective of political belief. Mr. Fowler is valued in the counsels of his party, having been one of the lieutenants upon whose judgment the lamented Hobart placed full reliance. His advice is both safe and sound, for he believes in the open course, that procedure which has nothing to conceal, and whose performance is its best defense. He has, too, a chivalric generosity which would be hazardous for one less firmly founded in the public esteem. In 1896 he neglected his own campaign to do stalwart work in the West for the cause of McKinley and sound money. In 1898 devotion to his friend, Foster M. Voorhees, constrained him to make that famous hurricane trip throughout the State with the Governor, reserving only the last few days for his own district, and giving up even these to the discussion of State issues. But in each instance the voters of the Eighth District showed their faith by returning him with an overwhelming majority. Though retired from active business, Mr. Fowler's life is surcharged with interests. At the national capital he considers no request from a constituent too trivial for careful and prompt attention. Mr. Fowler is fortunate in past, present and future; but there is nothing in his felicitous political life, thus outlined, which is due to chance. On the contrary, it is the natural consequent of such harmonious causes as industry, integrity, patriotism; his devotion to his constituents and their confidence in him. From such a foundation there must arise the substantial and permanent superstructure of a notable public career. Mr. Fowler is essentially a domestic man, finding his chief happiness in his home, and making it the center from which radiate all those kindly and generous influences which he exerts in the fulfillment of his ideals. This home is charmingly presided over by Mrs. Fowler, who is conspicuous in both Elizabeth and Washington as a leader in social, literary and church circles, and who shares in her husband's altruistic in-

terests. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler have one child—Charles N. Fowler, Jr."

HON. CHARLES SEWARD FOOTE was born at Port Henry, Essex county, N. Y., February 7, 1860, and is an attorney and counselor-at-law in New York. He was educated at the public schools of his native place, at Williston Seminary, East Hampton, Mass.; Yale College and Albany Law School, graduating at Yale in 1883 and at the Law School in 1885. In the latter year he was admitted to the bar in New York State, and immediately began the practice of his profession in New York city. For some years he was connected with prominent firms in that city, with one of them as a partner. In 1893 he opened his own office there, and since that time has been located in the Mutual Life Insurance building. A substantial part of his practice is devoted to corporation and estate matters and to counsel work. He took up his residence in Plainfield in the latter part of 1891 and was elected a member of the House of Assembly of the New Jersey Legislature for 1900, and again for 1901. In the former year he was chairman of the committee on ways and means and a member of the committees on election, judiciary, public health, and sinking fund. In the latter year he was made chairman of the committee on revision of laws, one of the most important committees of the House, and of the House joint committee on State Home for Girls, and was also a member of the committees on appropriations and on rules of the House. In both years Mr. Foote has been prominently identified with much of the most important legislation, and has been repeatedly entrusted with the introduction and passage in the House of measures embodying matters of State policy. In the latter year he was vigorously and prominently advocated as a candidate for leader of the Republican majority in the House. He has also been particularly active in furthering legislation in the interests of his county and city. Mr. Foote was a member of the Plainfield Republican campaign committee for the last Presidential election and is now a member of the Republican city executive committee from the Second ward. He is also a member of the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club and was formerly a member of the Union County Country Club.

HON. JOSEPH CROSS was born near Morristown, N. J., December 29, 1843. He graduated from Princeton University in the class of 1865. Immediately thereafter he began the study of law in the office of William J. Magie, Esq. He also took a course of lectures at Columbia College Law School, and was admitted to practice as attorney-at-law in June, 1868, and as a counselor in 1871. Upon his admission to the bar he was taken into partnership by his preceptor, under the firm name of Magie & Cross, which relation existed until 1880, when Mr. Magie was appointed one of the Justices of the Supreme Court. Mr. Cross has resided in Elizabeth since the spring of 1858 and has always been a staunch Republican. In 1888 he was appointed Judge of the District Court of the City of Elizabeth, but, in common with all of the other Republican District Court Judges of the State, was legislated out of office in April, 1891. Mr. Cross was elected a member of the Assembly from Union county in the fall of 1893 and again in 1894. When Speaker Holt resigned the chair, May 26, 1894, Mr. Cross was chosen his successor for the remainder of the session. In 1895 he was re-elected Speaker by the unanimous vote of his Republican colleagues. In November, 1898, he was elected Senator, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Senator Voorhees, who had been nominated as the Republican candidate

for Governor. He was re-elected to the Senate for a full term in 1899 by a plurality of 2,471, being an increase of 491 over that of the previous year.



HON. JOSEPH CROSS.

HON. ELLIS R. MEEKER was born in Newark, N. J., August 7, 1848, and is interested in the building of yachts and launches, also gas motors for the propulsion of vessels and automobiles. He has a large foundry and machine works at Trenton, N. J. He received first premium on his exhibit of launches at the World's Fair, and a concession from the directors for the carrying of passengers about the waterways of the Exposition. Mr. Meeker's paternal ancestors were among the earliest settlers of the State, and the name appears in the first and second lists of eighty associates, called "The Elizabethtown Associates," and on the maternal side it is found that Thomas Beach, an original immigrant from England, took the oath of fidelity at New Haven in 1654. Mr. Meeker is a member of the Masonic fraternity and an exempt fireman. Before his election to the Assembly he never held public office, but has always been an energetic Republican in the ranks as well as in the Republican city central committee of Elizabeth, and Union county executive committee. He was re-elected to the Assembly by a plurality of 4,288 over Lammerding, the highest candidate on the Democratic ticket. In 1900 he served as chairman of the committee on Reform School for Boys, and as a member of the committee on Industrial School for Girls. As a member of that committee, Mr. Meeker worked hard for the enactment of better laws for the governing of these institutions, and which changed the names of these institutions to that of the State Home for Boys and State Home for Girls. The trustees of both reformatories have highly commended him for the permanent improvements resulting largely from his personal efforts in having these laws passed. He was also a member of the committees on bill revision, incidental expenses, riparian rights. At the last session

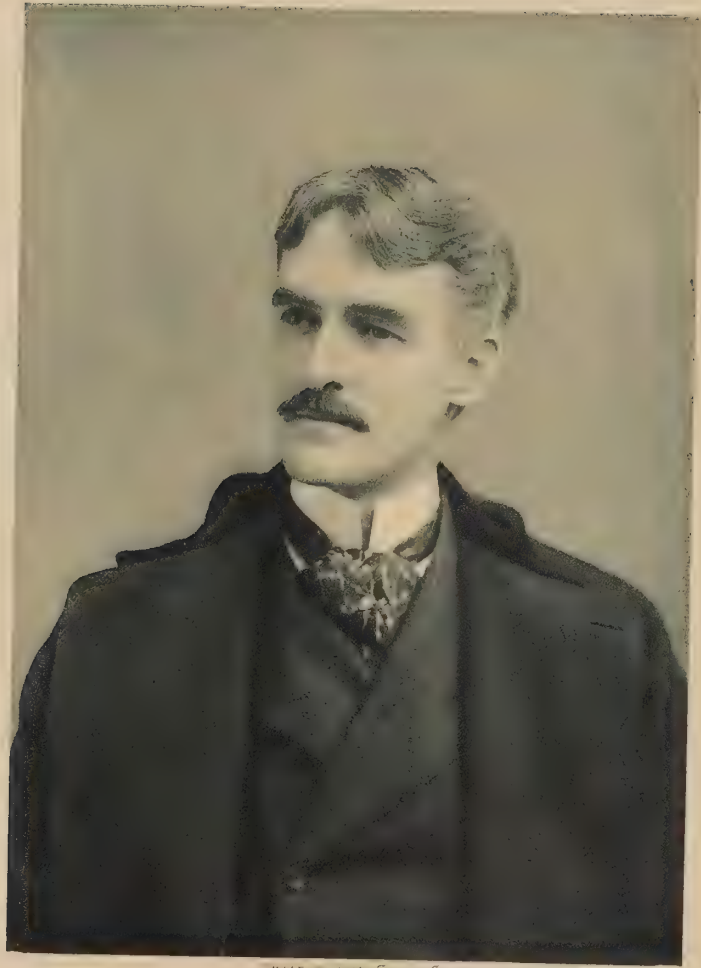
of the Assembly Mr. Meeker was the author of the anti-spring election law—known as the "Meeker act;" he worked hard for its passage, and took a great personal pride in the measure, which had a strong following. He is also the father of the new game and fisheries laws, which have been highly approved of all over the State.

HON. CHESTER M. SMITH was born at Hartwick, Otsego county, near Cooperstown, N. Y., November 21, 1851. For several years he was in the grocery and provision business at Oneonta, N. Y. About nineteen years ago he engaged in the tea-packing business in Water street, New York City, which he still continues. On beginning business in New York he made his home in Westfield, and is now one of its best-known and most popular residents. He is Past Regent of the Royal Arcanum Council and also Collector of the Loyal Addition. He was also Vice-President of the Westfield Club. Mr. Smith has been a loyal Republican for many years and is an active member of the Republican Executive Committee of Westfield. He was re-elected to the Assembly by a plurality of 4,341 over Lammerding, the highest man on the Democratic ticket.

CHARLES ARTHUR REED was born at Fort Wayne, Ind., December 4, 1857. His father, Hugh B. Reed, was born at Zanesville, O., and at the outbreak of the Civil war was a wholesale druggist at Fort Wayne. He was appointed by Governor Morton commandant of camp there, organized the Twelfth, Thirtieth and Forty-fourth Indiana regiments, and, going to the front as colonel of the Forty-fourth, was in command during all the battles of the campaign which began with Fort Donnellson, and received special mention for bravery at Shiloh, where he was twice struck and had three horses killed under him, and his regiment lost over three hundred men. After about two years of service he resigned on account of illness, in 1866 retired from business, and removed to Somerset county, N. J., where he resided on a farm until his death, which occurred in 1890. The Colonel Hugh B. Reed Camp, Sons of Veterans, at Somerville, was named in his honor. His ancestors came from England and settled in Virginia early in the eighteenth century and were prominently identified in the history of that State. He married Annie E., daughter of Lewis G. Thompson, who in his day was the most prominent physician of Northern Indiana, and Ann McFarland Scott, whose ancestors were Scotch Presbyterians who early settled in Philadelphia and some of whom were prominent as officers during the Revolution and the War of 1812. Mrs. Reed resides at Somerville with her son, Dr. Louis Thompson Reed. Senator Reed received his early education from his parents and at the age of fourteen entered the Rutgers College Grammar School at New Brunswick. Graduating there in 1874, he entered Rutgers College with the class of 1878, but owing to an injury to his eye, received in a football scrimmage, was obliged to abandon study for a time, and did not finish the college course. In 1879 he began the study of law in the office of Judge Bartine at Somerville, and after attending Columbia College School of Law was admitted to the New Jersey bar in June, 1882. He soon removed to Wilkesbarre, Pa., where, after the usual time and examination required in such cases, he was admitted to the bar of Luzerne county. Shortly thereafter he was appointed, after competitive examination, a special examiner of the United States Pension Bureau, an important and responsible position, requiring special knowledge, and the duties of which took him first to Springfield, Ill., and later to New York city. In 1885 he abandoned that work, and, returning







Chas. A. Reed



Mr. A. Goodington







JOSEPH B. COWARD.



WILLIAM REUBEN CODDINGTON.

to Somerville, N. J., formed a copartnership with ex-Congressman Alvah A. Clark for the practice of law. Two years later he married Katharine Longstreet Clark, his partner's daughter, and who comes of good old Dutch-English stock, and removed to Plainfield, where he has since successfully followed his profession. In 1894 he formed a partnership with Judge William A. Coddington, which still exists, the firm of Reed & Coddington being now the oldest law firm in Plainfield. He has been successfully identified with much important litigation, and has been corporation counsel of the borough of North Plainfield since 1888, during which long period it is said the borough has never been worsted in any lawsuit. He is president of the Somerset County Bar Association and was one of the organizers and first trustees of the New Jersey State Bar Association, and stands high in his profession. He is prominent also socially and has held office in most of the local clubs, and was for years president of the Park Club of North Plainfield. His residence is in North Plainfield, and in 1895 he was elected to represent Somerset county in the New Jersey House of Assembly, where in one year he became a leader. In 1896 he was chosen senator, and was so well regarded that in 1899 he was made president of the Senate. He was re-elected to the Senate in the fall of that year for another term of three years, which will expire in 1902. In 1901 he was chosen leader of the majority and he is regarded as one of the most prominent Republicans in the State. He was prominently mentioned as an available candidate for governor, but declined to allow the use of his name in that connection. He has three children, Arthur Clark, Madeline and Hugh B., and has four sisters and two brothers, none of whom are married. The youngest brother, Hugh B. Reed, is a lawyer practicing in Newark, N. J.

WILLIAM A. CODDINGTON, who is a prominent Plainfield lawyer, was born May 14, 1864, in Bound Brook, Somerset county, New Jersey. His father was Israel A. Coddington, and his mother Savilla M. Fisher, both of whom were descendants of noted officers who served their country in the Revolutionary war. He is a self-made man, who with energy, perseverance and ambition has risen to the position he now occupies before the New Jersey bar. His education was obtained in the public schools at Bound Brook, Hasbrouck Collegiate Institute, and at State Model and Normal schools at Trenton. Choosing the profession of law, he bent his efforts to acquire a thorough knowledge of it, and assisted himself during his study by teaching school for three years in Somerset county. He studied law with Jackson & Coddington, and later with Suydam & Stillman. In 1891 he was admitted to the bar, and at once began the practice of law on West Front street, in Plainfield. He was elected city judge of Plainfield on the Democratic ticket in 1892. He is the only man who was ever elected to that office on the Democratic ticket. During his term as city judge he disposed of nearly two thousand cases, some of which were carried to higher courts, and none of his decisions were ever reversed. He served a full three-year term, but, declining further political preferment, has since devoted his whole time to his profession. In 1894 he formed a partnership with Senator Charles A. Reed, under the firm name of Reed & Coddington, which firm still exists, with commodious offices in the Babcock building. He has been counsel in many important cases involving large amounts of money, in which he brought to bear a keen judicial knowledge, carrying them to successful terminations. On October 8, 1890, Judge Coddington married Miss Ida M. Wilson, of North Plainfield, and, taking up his residence in Plainfield, has remained there ever since.

JOSEPH B. COWARD: As an example of that class of men who are so absorbed in their profession that other pursuits have no power to draw them aside, Joseph B. Coward must be regarded as representative. Early in life he decided upon the legal profession as his life's work, and entered the law office of Cornelius Boice, where he laid a foundation for his legal career. Mr. Coward is one of the oldest and best-known lawyers in Union county. Possessing a keen, logical, analytical mind, and a remarkable faculty for making a clear and luminous statement of his case and enforcing his argument by a manner at once earnest and pleasing, it is not surprising that he has won his way to the front rank of his chosen calling. He is an ardent Republican and was for one year a member of the New Jersey Assembly, where he took an active part in matters respecting legislation. He ably served as city clerk of Plainfield during the years of 1890 and 1891. In 1860 Mr. Coward married Miss Sarah A. Boice, a daughter of his legal preceptor. Two daughters and one son, Lillian, Helen, and Harry, have been born to their marriage. Henry Coward holds a prominent position in the City National Bank. The family resides at 245 East Front street. Mr. Coward is a member of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church and takes an active part in the work of that denomination. Without the least ostentation, Mr. Coward has always been found among the first to help any worthy charity and to give personal encouragement to anything that will develop the interests of Plainfield.

WILLIAM M. STILLMAN, the youngest son of the late Dr. Charles H. Stillman, was born in the then village of Plainfield on November 23, 1856. He is of New England ancestry, on his mother's side being a direct descendant of Elder Brewster, of the Mayflower, and on his father's side he comes from a family of Yankee mechanics who in their day were well known for their mechanical and inventive skill, one uncle, Thomas B. Stillman, being an owner of the famous Novelty Iron Works in New York City, the largest of their day. Another uncle, Alfred Stillman, was the inventor of the steam gauge and a method of clarifying sugar, which revolutionized that business. His only surviving uncle on his father's side is William James Stillman, of London, England, well known as an art critic and writer. The subject of this sketch graduated from the Plainfield High School in 1872, and after a year spent in business at Peter Henderson's seed store, in Cortlandt street, New York, he entered Rutgers College, graduating at the head of his class in the year 1877. He then spent two years at Columbia Law School, under the able training of the celebrated Theodore Dwight, from which institution he graduated in 1879 with the degree LL.B. He spent one year in the office of Magie & Cross, at Elizabeth, now Chancellor Magie and Senator Cross, where he had associated with him the now Governor Voorhees. He was admitted to the bar of New Jersey as an attorney in June, 1880. Since that date he has been continuously in business in this city, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice. Other professional appointments received by him were: Counselor-at-law, June, 1883; Master and Examiner in Chancery, Supreme Court Commissioner, and Notary Public. In 1884 he formed a partnership with the late George P. Suydam, which continued until the death of the latter, in 1889. He has been active in local matters, serving as one of the directors of the Plainfield Public Library and Reading Room, and also as its secretary, since 1883; as director and counsel of the First National Bank since 1889. He was one of the organizers of the Home Building and Loan Association, of this



city, in 1888, and has acted as its counsel since then. He was counsel for the Plainfield Land Improvement Company during its existence, a corporation which did so much for the development of the city in the neighborhood of Grant avenue. He has filled the office of City Judge during portions of the years 1889 and 1890. Among other societies and organizations he has been connected with, both State and local, are Sons of the American Revolution, the Elizabethtown chapter of the same; director of the New Jersey State Audubon Society, the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club, the Camera Club and the Y. M. C. A., and he was active in other societies now extinct, such as the Country Club, the Plainfield Athletic Association, the Bicycle Club, etc. As one of the executors and trustees of the millionaire estate of the late George H. Babcock, he has done much towards the improvement and development of the city, by carrying on the work begun by the late Mr. Babcock in his lifetime. He was married March 3, 1887, to Elizabeth Atwood, daughter of Isaac B. Atwood and Sarah Copeland Atwood, of Cambridge, Mass. He is the owner of a considerable amount of real estate in both the city and borough, among them being his beautiful home on West Seventh street and his handsome block of stores and flats on the west corner of Front street and Madison avenue. He has ever been anxious to forward the prosperity of his native place, and he looks with much satisfaction upon what he considers his latest achievement in this direction, viz., the opening of Duer street across the brook, which is sure to result for all time in great good to many people and to the public in general. He has been a member for many years past of the Seventh-Day Baptist church of this city, and has acted as one of its trustees for the last ten years, and as one of the board of trustees and counsel for the Seventh-Day Baptist memorial fund he performs an important part in the management and control of a large trust fund devoted to the educational and other purposes of that denomination.

WILLIAM REUBEN CODINGTON, at present county attorney of Union county, New Jersey, was born, February 24, 1853, in Lamont county, New Jersey. His parents were George W. and Jane Codington, and is a descendant of John Codington, who came from England and settled in New Jersey before the Revolutionary war. His father was a thrifty farmer, always resident in Somerset county, and died in 1893, at the age of eighty-one years. His mother still resides on the old homestead at Millington. He has two sisters and two brothers living, one sister having died some years ago. The subject of this sketch spent his early days on the farm, where good habits, outdoor work and good moral training assisted in laying the foundation for the physical and mental structure now enjoyed and beneficially used. After attending the public schools at his home, he took a course of study at the State Normal and Model schools at Trenton. Upon leaving school, he entered the law office of Suydam & Jackson, at Plainfield. He was admitted to the bar in 1887. The senior member of the firm died about this time, and Mr. Codington formed a partnership with his preceptor, Mr. Jackson, the firm being Jackson & Codington. A few years later Mr. Jackson died, and Mr. Codington, after carrying on the business for a number of years, found his business assuming such dimensions as to require assistance, such as clerks could not render; he then formed a partnership with S. S. Swackhamer, as Codington & Swackhamer, and still continues to conduct a large practice in the same offices, where Mr. Codington first entered as a student and clerk. Mr. Codington is looked upon as possessing rare good judgment, and

a shrewd, studious lawyer. He has served two terms in the State Legislature, three years as city judge, and was then made county attorney for Union county, which position he still maintains with credit to himself and the county. He is counsel for many corporations, a director of the First National Bank of Plainfield, and a trustee of the First M. E. church, where he attends divine service. In politics, he is and always has been a Republican. He is popular and has the respect and confidence of the public; his services, by reason of his ability and integrity, are always in demand. Mr. Codington married Rachael Runyan, daughter of Isaac S. Runyan, formerly a well-known resident of Millington. A son and a daughter were born of this marriage.

S. S. SWACKHAMER was born at White House, N. J., August 7, 1859, where his parents, Auliff S. and Jane Swackhamer, still reside. His father was for years an able teacher and was county superintendent of public schools for two terms in succession. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools. He subsequently taught school for some time in Hunterdon and Warren counties. After a four years' course in preparation for the bar, he was admitted from the office of Hon. J. T. Bartine, of Somerville, N. J., in February, 1894, to practice as an attorney, and in February of 1897 took the degree of counsellor. He commenced the practice of law in Plainfield, N. J., in 1894, and later entered into partnership with Hon. Wm. R. Codington, forming the firm of Codington & Swackhamer, of which he is still a member. He is one of the North Plainfield Council. Mr. Swackhamer married Lizzie, youngest daughter of Rev. Martin and Mary (Burdette) Herr, of White House, N. J. They have one child, Constance, born in 1900. Mr. Swackhamer is distinguished as a successful jury lawyer, in which capacity he brings to bear a great variety of learning and marked oratorical power. He is a hard student and has a profound knowledge of literature, science and philosophy. He frequently delivers addresses on various subjects and is recognized as a strong and skillful debater. He is deeply learned in the law and handles important cases in the higher courts of the State. He has later been admitted to the United States courts. He is a prominent Democrat and is well known as an effective stump speaker.

FRANK BERGEN, president of the Plainfield Water Company and a resident of Elizabeth, N. J., was born at Roycefield, Somerset county, N. J., December 1, 1851. He received his education in the public schools of Somerville, N. J. Later he began the study of law, and is now engaged in the practice of his profession at Elizabeth. Mr. Bergen is a prominent Republican and is at present county attorney of Union county and corporation counsel of Elizabeth. His pressing professional duties have prevented him from taking an active interest in club affairs. At present he is a member and president of the Mattano Club. On May 24, 1887, Mr. Bergen married Miss Lydia S. Gardiner, of Mystic, Conn. Three children have been born, two of whom are living and one deceased.

WILLIAM NEWCORN, lawyer, was born in Cracow, Austria, March 4, 1868. His father, Nathan Newcorn, came to America and located at New York City, where he engaged in the wholesale clothing business. In 1890 he retired. William Newcorn attended the grammar schools, from which he was graduated with high honors, after which he entered the College of the City of New York, where he remained but one year. After completing his studies, he accepted a position with the Knickerbocker Ice Company,



CLARENCE L. MURPHY.



FRANCIS J. BLATZ.





WINFIELD SCOTT ANGLEMAN.



CHARLES LEONARD MOFFETT.

with whom he remained four years. The following two years he was engaged in the wholesale and retail tobacco business for himself. In 1889 he located in Plainfield, where he opened a store devoted to sporting goods. He continued in that connection until 1897. While engaged in commercial pursuits Mr. Newcorn devoted his leisure moments to reading law, a profession he had a strong desire to enter. In 1897 he was admitted to the bar of New Jersey and has continued to practice his profession ever since. Mr. Newcorn has been a prominent figure in local politics for several years. He is a member of the County Republican Committee and is secretary and treasurer of the City Republican Committee. In the fall of 1893 Mr. Newcorn was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace. Mr. Newcorn is also a prominent figure in fraternal societies; he is a member of Miantonomo Tribe, No. 118, I. O. R. M., of Plainfield, and was on February 23, 1900, elected Great Sachem of the Great Reservation of New Jersey; he is also a member of Iona Council, No. 14, D. of P.; Central Lodge, No. 48, A. O. U. W.; Protective Conclave, No. 507, Improved Order of Heptasophs, and Passaic Lodge, No. 387, Benevolent Order of Elks. On October 26, 1889, Mr. Newcorn married Miss Rachel Dreier, of Plainfield, now deceased. Two children blessed the union, Netta and Isidore. Mr. Newcorn is a public-spirited citizen and has always manifested more than usual interest in everything that promotes the welfare of Plainfield.

CLARENCE LOGAN MURPHY, counsellor-at-law, was born in Tamaqua, Pa., on June 3, 1868. His father is the Rev. T. Logan Murphy, a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Mr. Murphy resided in Newport, R. I., and in Fitchburg, Mass., before coming to Plainfield, in 1877, when his father accepted the rectorship of the Church of the Holy Cross in North Plainfield. Mr. Murphy was educated in the public schools, graduating in North Plainfield in 1884. In the fall of the same year he accepted a position in the wholesale dry goods commission business, and about six years after he resigned his position and entered the law office of John H. Van Winkle, in this city. He was admitted to the bar in February, 1895, and immediately entered upon the practice of law in this city. In July, 1897, he formed a partnership, for the practice of law, with Francis J. Blatz, under the firm name of Murphy & Blatz. In June, 1898, he obtained his degree as counselor-at-law. Mr. Murphy is known as a lawyer of ability and is conducting a successful law practice in this city. He is popular with a large circle of friends and acquaintances. He is a clever chess-player and in 1889 won the chess championship of the State of New Jersey for that year. He is a Republican and takes an active interest in politics.

FRANCIS J. BLATZ was born June 24, 1875, at Plainfield, N. J. He is the son of Joseph A. and Elizabeth K. Blatz. He graduated from the North Plainfield High School in 1893, and took up the study of law on June 1, of the same year, with Judge Ulrich, of Plainfield. He continued there until December 8, 1894, when he made a change and resumed his studies under ex-Mayor John H. Van Winkle. He remained there until June 9, 1897. October 1, 1895, he entered the New York University Law School, and on June 7, 1897, received the degree of LL. B. He was admitted as an attorney-at-law of this State June, 1897, and on June 11, 1900, successfully passed his examinations as a counselor-at-law. In July of the same year he formed a partnership with Clarence L. Murphy. Mr. Blatz has been a practicing attorney of Plainfield for three years, under the firm name of

Murphy & Blatz. He is unmarried, and resides with his parents in the borough of North Plainfield. Mr. Blatz is a member of the Somerset County Bar Association, and a young man of marked popularity in the city of Plainfield. He is also an active worker in the Republican party in North Plainfield, where his efforts in that direction have called forth well-deserved praise. He promises to become one of the foremost lawyers in Plainfield; and his success will be looked upon with favor by a large circle of acquaintances.

HARRY CHASE RUNYON, lawyer, was born in "Church row," Plainfield, New Jersey, April 16, 1869. His father, John C. Runyon, was one of the pioneer printers and was the publisher of the Central New Jersey Times, and later foreman of the Plainfield Courier-News, a position he held up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1890. The Runyons were among the earliest settlers in New Jersey, and have been prominent in the history of the State. Mr. Runyon's mother was formerly Miss Harriet M. Chase, of Delaware county, New York, and youngest daughter of Col. Edward M. Chase. She is descended from William Chase, who came to this country, in 1630, in the Mayflower. She is also descended from Samuel Chase, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and of Salmon P. Chase, who was a member of President Lincoln's cabinet, and the founder of our present national banking system. Mr. Runyon received his education at the Plainfield public schools. At an early age he became an apprentice under his father in the printers' trade. In 1887 he accepted a position in a store in Newark, and the following year began the study of law in that city with the firm of Morrow & Schenck. He was admitted to practice in 1892, and has been unusually successful in his profession. Mr. Runyon was married in 1896 to Miss Louisa, daughter of Genio S. and Amy J. Baker. In 1897 Mayor Fisk appointed Mr. Runyon assessor of the Fourth ward, Plainfield, a position he still holds. He is also secretary of the board of trade, and a director and secretary of the Watchung Silk company. In politics, Mr. Runyon has always been a Republican, but is in no sense a politician. He has never been a candidate for any office. He is a member of the Park Avenue Baptist church.

ROBERT MARTIN CLARK, lawyer, was born at Newark, N. J., November 2, 1875. He attended the public schools of his native city until 1888, at which time his parents removed to North Plainfield, where he entered the High School. Later he entered the New York University and was graduated therefrom in 1896, with the degree of LL. B. On November 9 of the same year he was admitted as an attorney to the New Jersey bar; was appointed a master in chancery, January 12, 1897, and was admitted as a counselor November 13, 1899. His practice of the law began January 1, 1897. Mr. Clark was elected assessor of North Plainfield township in March, 1897, and satisfactorily filled that position for one term. He is a member of Franklin Council, Jr., 41, O. U. A. M.; Wetumpkali Council, 229, I. O. R. M.; Unity Lodge, K. of P.; Seneca Athletic Club, and the Warren Engine Company of North Plainfield; Company K, Third Regiment, N. G. N. J. Mr. Clark was married, June 14, 1899, to Lilian M. Dundin, of Bridgeport, Conn. Mr. Clark is the son of Robert Clark, Jr., who was born at Newark. His mother was a Miss Martin, a daughter of Daniel Martin, a member of an old family of Plainfield. Mr. Clark is also associated with Edward O. Clark, at Newark, N. J., in the general practice of law, under the firm name of Clark & Clark, with offices in the Prudential building.



WINFIELD SCOTT ANGLEMAN, lawyer, was born October 26, 1862, at Plainfield, N. J., where he has resided all his life. After completing a common school course he entered the Law School of New York University. Ever since his admission to the bar, Mr. Angelman has practiced his profession in Plainfield, where he has been very successful. He is a member of Anchor Lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M.; Jerusalem Chapter, R. A. M., and Trinity Commandery, No. 17, Knights Templar. Politically he is a Republican, but has never held any office. Mr. Angelman is married and has one child.

CHARLES LEONARD MOFFETT: The subject of this sketch is a prominent lawyer of Plainfield, N. J. His first American ancestor came to America before the war of Independence, and served in the army of the Revolution. His grandfather, John Moffett, was of Scotch descent. He was a farmer residing at Mt. Horeb, N. J. He married Miss Sarah Tunison, who was of old New Jersey stock. They had nine children. The youngest son, Dennis Moffett, born in the year 1816, was a farmer, and followed that occupation in Middlesex and Union counties, New Jersey. He is now living in retirement in Plainfield, N. J. His wife, Charlotte Wilcox, was of an old English family of Union county, New Jersey. She died in 1889. Of their ten children, seven are now living, the youngest of whom is the subject of this sketch. Charles Leonard Moffett was born in Plainfield township, Union county, New Jersey, September 24, 1865. After receiving a good public school education, he attended the Rutgers College grammar school at New Brunswick, N. J., and afterward pursued the study of the classics and higher branches of mathematics, under the instruction of prominent professors, and in these he became very proficient. Subsequently he began the study of law in the office of Hon. John Ulrich, where he remained two years, and afterwards spent two years in the office of Nelson Runyon, ex-City Judge, and was admitted to the bar in February, 1892. Mr. Moffett has a large and lucrative practice, having made a specialty of the law relating to real estate. Having had considerable experience in this line of practice, he has become recognized authority on legal questions of realty. Mr. Moffett was married in October, 1892, to Miss Marion C. Runyon, daughter of the late John C. Runyon, formerly a prominent man of Union county, and editor of the Central New Jersey Times, a leading Republican paper at the time of his death. They have two children, Flossie A. and Charles Leonard, Jr. Mr. Moffett is a member of the Presbyterian church, and also a member of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26, F. & A. M., of Plainfield, N. J.

GEORGE WOODHULL ENDICOTT, M. D.—Dr. George Woodhull Endicott, son of Capt. Thomas Doughty Endicott and Ann (Pennington) Endicott, was born at Mays Landing, Atlantic county, New Jersey, April 10, 1853, and is a direct descendant of Governor John Endicott, who came to this country from England in 1628 as the first Colonial Governor of the Massachusetts Colony. On his mother's side, he belongs to the famous Pennington family of New Jersey, two of their number having served as Governors of the State. William S. Pennington served as Governor from 1813 to 1818, and William Pennington from 1837 to 1843. Dr. Endicott's early education was obtained in the Presbyterian school at Mays Landing. In 1871 he entered the Peddie Institute at Hightstown, New Jersey, and graduated in the academic course at that institution in June, 1873. The following September he entered the Jefferson Medical College, and was the youngest member of his class, that

numbered one hundred and seventy-one. In 1875, upon his graduation, he was appointed home physician to St. Mary's Hospital, Philadelphia, where he enjoyed the rare privilege of assisting such surgeons as Gross, Pancoast and Keen. After serving his term in the hospital, he entered the drug store of Dr. Joseph Hornblower, of Hudson City, New Jersey, to acquire a practical knowledge of drugs. While there he studied pharmacy, and in 1878 he passed the examination of the New Jersey State Board of Pharmacy. Dr. Endicott first began the practice of medicine in Dunellen, New Jersey. He moved to Plainfield in 1880. Here his ability was promptly recognized, and he soon established a lucrative practice, and became one of the leading physicians and surgeons of the city. Dr. Endicott was appointed surgeon to Muhlenberg Hospital at its opening, in 1881, and he held that position until he tendered his resignation to the board of governors, May 28, 1900; he was requested by the board of governors to reconsider his resignation, but the Doctor insisted upon its acceptance by the board; the resignation was finally accepted, and at the same meeting the board of governors elected him, by a unanimous vote, as consulting surgeon to Muhlenberg Hospital. Dr. Endicott was a member of the Plainfield board of health for ten successive years, and inaugurated many improvements in the sanitary condition of the city. It was during his time of service that water and sewerage were introduced. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the New Jersey Medical Association, the Union County Medical Association, and the Plainfield Medical Association. The Doctor was married in 1879, and has one son—George Woodhull Endicott, Jr.

PETER J. ZEGLIO, M. D., was born at Cranford, N. J., May 31, 1860. He received his education in the public schools of Mt. Bethel, N. J. Early in life, Dr. Zeglio decided to adopt the medical profession; he pursued a regular course of instruction under private teachers, incident to the needs of that calling, and in due time placed himself under the tutorage of Dr. Van Derveer, of Liberty Corner, N. J. At the age of eighteen years he began a systematic course of lectures at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, medical department of Columbia College, graduating therefrom in 1882. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession at Mt. Bethel, and his success has been phenomenal ever since. In 1895 Dr. Zeglio removed his residence and office from Mt. Bethel to North Plainfield, where his services are in constant demand, day and night. At the time he located in North Plainfield he purchased the property of the late Dr. Craig, No. 48 Somerset street, where he still resides and maintains his office. He is a member of the American Medical Association, the Somerset County Medical Association and of the Plainfield Medical Association. He was elected coroner of Somerset county in 1884. Dr. Zeglio is of Swiss parentage, being the fifth child of John and Josephine (Duchini) Zeglio, both of whom were natives of Switzerland, but who came to America in 1849. The former died at Mt. Bethel, April 15, 1866, and the latter February 4, 1895.

OLIN L. JENKINS, M. D., was born at Plainfield, N. J., April 23, 1852. His parents, Joseph B. and Sarah Ann Jenkins, were both natives of Columbia county, N. Y., where they resided until 1843, at which time they removed to Plainfield, the former dying there, in 1890. Dr. Jenkins received his elementary education in the public schools of Plainfield. Later, he entered a seminary at Kingston, Pa., graduating from that institution in 1871. Deciding to adopt the medical profession, he entered the Homœopathic Medical College,



Engd by H & C. K. 1885 N.Y.

*Henry C. Remyon.*







ROBERT MARTIN CLARK.



WILLIAM NEWCORN.



FLOYD T. WOODHULL.





EDSON C. MARTIN.

New York City, in 1872, and received his degree in 1876. He immediately began the practice of his chosen profession at Danielson, Conn., where he remained for twelve years. In 1888 he located at Plainfield, succeeding to the practice of Dr. South, in which he has since continued. Dr. Jenkins is a member of the State Medical Society and of the Plainfield Medical Society; he is a member of the F. & A. M., Mystic Shrine, Junior Order of American Mechanics, Ancient Order of United Workmen, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Honor, and Knights of Pythias. He has ably served as a member of the Plainfield Common Council and of the Board of Education. In November, 1900, Dr. Jenkins was elected mayor of Plainfield, and is the present incumbent of that office. In 1881 he married Miss Rhoda Hollock, of Plainfield. They reside at No. 210 East Front street, where Dr. Jenkins also retains his office.

JOHN T. FRITTS, M.D., was born at New Hampton, Hunterdon county, N. J., May 4, 1844, being the youngest of a family of five children. His ancestors emigrated from Holland in the early part of the eighteenth century and settled in New Jersey. They took a prominent part in the Revolutionary War. John A. Fritts, father of the subject of this sketch, was a prominent farmer residing near New Hampton. In his boyhood days and during his school vacations Dr. Fritts' time was spent at work upon the farm. After obtaining a common school education, he entered Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg, Pa., and subsequently Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York City, graduating from the latter institution in March, 1866, with the degree of M. D. He immediately began the practice of his profession at White House, N. J., where he remained for a period of ten years. In 1878 Dr. Fritts removed to Plainfield, N. J., where he has since continued to reside and practice his profession. He is one of Plainfield's most progressive citizens and has always used his efforts toward its advancement and improvement. He was instrumental in introducing the trolley railroad system in Plainfield, and was the first vice-president of the company. He is at present the surgeon-in-chief of the Elizabeth, Plainfield & Central Jersey Railway Company, formerly the Westfield & Elizabeth Street Railway and Rahway Traction Company. For the past twenty years he has served as surgeon for the Central Railway of New Jersey. He was also pension examining surgeon. Dr. Fritts is a member of Jerusalem Lodge, Jerusalem Chapter and Trinity Commandery of Knights Templar, all of Plainfield, N. J. Politically, he has always been an ardent Republican. On February 26, 1868, he married Margaret Hunt Suydam, daughter of Andrew Suydam, of White House, N. J. They have three children, Lillian Earl, Mary Malvina and Dr. Andrew Suydam Fritts.

MONROE BUDD LONG, M.D., was born on a farm in Washington valley, near Somerville, N. J., December 16, 1849, being the fifth of a family of six children, all of whom are now living. His parents died in 1898, having reached the ripe old age of eighty years. Dr. Long's ancestors, for many generations, lived and died in Somerset county, except his paternal grandfather, who removed to, and died in, Ohio. Dr. Long's boyhood days were spent in work on the farm and in attending the district schools in that vicinity. At the age of twelve years, there chanced to fall into his hands a work on anatomy and physiology, by Calvin Cutter, M.D. In this he became deeply interested and at once decided to pursue the study of medicine. Dr. Long's ideal of human perfection was the old and highly respected physician in his father's family. A course of medicine was planned and

divulged to no one for several years. Dr. Long thought then, as now, that boys should learn those things which they will practice when they become men. Insisting upon a higher education than the district schools afforded, he finally entered the Somerset Classical Institute, at Somerville, N. J., September, 1869, graduating from that institution at the close of a two years' course of study. He then returned to the farm, and while thus engaged was called to teach school at Pluckamin, N. J. Two days later, July 17, 1871, he began his career, as a pedagogue, which occupation he followed for two years. While teaching, he pursued the study of medicine under Dr. Henry Van Derveer, of Somerville. On June 11, 1873, he located in Plainfield, where he continued his studies with Dr. John C. Sutphen. On October 1, the same year, he matriculated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City, graduating from that institution March 1, 1875. A few days later he entered into a partnership with Dr. Sutphen, which continued for two and a half years. In 1886 Dr. Long purchased his present home on Park avenue, where he is still residing and practising his profession. Dr. Long is a member of the New Jersey State Medical Society, the Union County Medical Society and the Plainfield Clinical Society. Politically, he is a Republican, and has served two terms as coroner of Union county. On December 27, 1877, he was united in marriage with Clara S. Goodman, of Newark, N. J. Five children have been born to the union, all of whom are living.

DANIEL CORY ADAMS, M.D., was born in Somerset county, N. J., in 1865, being the son of Jacob P. and Phoebe E. (Cory) Adams. He attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, when he entered the Plainfield Academy, pursuing his studies in that institution for three years. The following two years were passed in the School of Mines, Columbia College, New York City. In 1887 Dr. Adams entered the New York Homœopathic Medical College, graduating therefrom and receiving his degree in 1890. In the same year he located in Plainfield, where he has built up a large and lucrative practice. Dr. Adams is a member of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 26, F. & A. M.; Jerusalem Chapter, No. 24, R. A. M.; Trinity Commandery, No. 17, K. T., and has been presiding officer in these three Masonic bodies. He is Grand Generallissimo of the Grand Commandery of K. T. of New Jersey. He is also a member of Mecca Temple, Mystic Shrine; the Knights of Pythias, and of a number of other social and benevolent organizations. In 1886 Dr. Adams was united in marriage to Miss Frances U. Honeyman, of Somerset county, N. J. Two children have been born to the union, Helen Frances and Daniel Cory. Dr. and Mrs. Adams are prominent members of the First Baptist Church and take an active part in the social life of Plainfield. They reside in a handsome home at 46 Grove street, North Plainfield.

THOMAS H. TOMLINSON, M.D., was born at Roadstown, Cumberland county, N. J., September 26, 1836. He attended school at Union Academy, of Shiloh, N. J., and the University of Lewisburg (Pa.). His medical studies were prosecuted at the Albany (N. Y.) Medical College, and University of Pennsylvania (medical department), graduating from the latter in 1859. Dr. Tomlinson is a son of George Tomlinson, who was a well-known physician of Cumberland county, N. J., and where he practiced medicine for more than fifty years. He was eighty years of age at the time of his decease. After graduating in medicine, Dr. Tomlinson began the practice of his profession at Shiloh, where he remained until 1870, at which time he located at Plainfield,

where he has continued ever since. Dr. Tomlinson is a member of the Union County Medical Society and was its president for one term. He is a member of the Plainfield Medical Society, the Plainfield Clinical Society, and one of the staff physicians of Muhlenberg Hospital. Dr. Tomlinson is also a prominent member of the Seventh-Day Baptist church. Dr. Tomlinson has been twice married; his first wife was Miss Cornelia Gellette, who departed this life in 1864; three children were born to this marriage, one of whom is living. His present wife was Miss Mary Davis, whom he married in December, 1868, and to whom three children have been born. Dr. Tomlinson resides at No. 212 Le Grand avenue. Associated with him in his practice is his son, Dr. Roland D. Tomlinson, who recently completed his course of study at Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York City.

JOHN H. CARMAN, M.D., the present city physician and surgeon, was born at Bordentown, N. J., November 13, 1857. He moved to South Amboy in 1868, and graduated from the High School at that place in 1876. Shortly afterwards he began the study of medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Baltimore, Md., graduating from that institution in 1881. In 1885 Dr. Carman located at Plainfield. He is attending physician and dermatologist to Muhlenberg Hospital, a member of the American Medical Association, of the State and Union County Medical Societies, a member of the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club, and is a warden of the Holy Cross church. On November 5, 1885, he married Miss Josephine A. Crittenden, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have two children, a son and daughter. Since Dr. Carman has been the incumbent of the office of city physician, the duties the position calls for have been ably executed.

WILLIAM H. MURRAY, M.D., was born at South Danvers (now Peabody), Mass., May 13, 1858. He is a lineal descendant of John Alden, and is a son of the Rev. James Ormsbee Murray, who for many years was dean of Princeton University. Dr. Murray's early education was obtained in private schools at New York City. In 1875 he entered Princeton University, graduating therefrom in 1878. He immediately entered the College of P. & S., New York, and in 1881 received his degree of M.D. He afterwards went abroad, where he remained for some time prosecuting his studies at Vienna. In 1885 Dr. Murray located at Plainfield, where he has since then devoted his time to the practice of his profession. He has for four years been a member of the Board of Health, and is at present the president of that body. He is also a member of the State Board of Health. Politically, he is a Republican; at the city primary convention, held in November, 1900, Dr. Murray was tendered a complimentary vote of the delegates of his ward for mayor. Dr. Murray is a member of the Plainfield Medical Association, the Union County Medical Society, the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club, the Princeton Club of New York, the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, and is attending physician to Muhlenberg Hospital. In September, 1887, he married Miss M. L. Tiffany, a granddaughter of the late O. B. Tweedy, of Plainfield. One son, James Ormsbee, has been born to the union. Dr. Murray resides in a pleasant home at No. 737 Watchung avenue.

NORMAL WILBUR CURRIE, M.D., was born April 13, 1872, at Searsville, Orange county, N. Y. He is a son of John and Jane Currie, both natives of the State of New

York. Dr. Currie, when a boy, attended the public schools of his native town, and later was graduated from the High School at Middletown, N. Y. In 1892 he entered the medical department of the University of the City of New York, graduating therefrom in 1895. For the past two years he has been a practicing physician at Plainfield. Dr. Currie is a member of the First Presbyterian church, Knights of Pythias, F. & A. M., and the county and city medical societies. On August 31, 1898, he married Miss Anabel Kernochan.

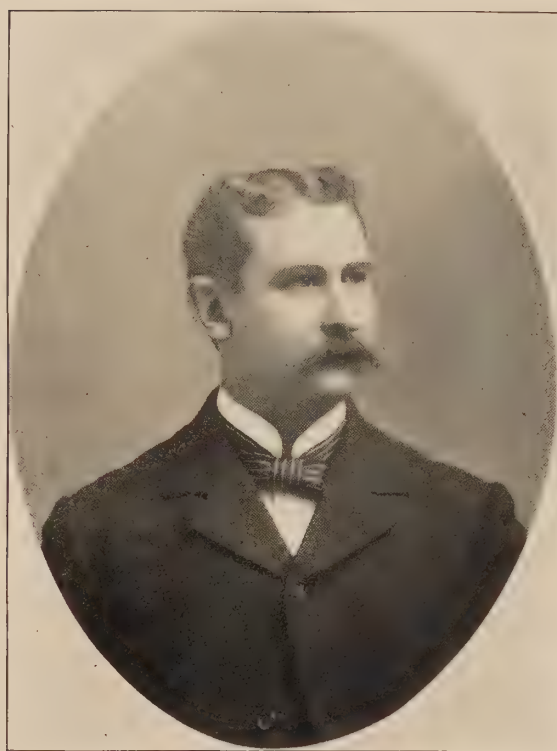
ALFRED F. VAN HORN, M.D., was born May 11, 1861, at Summit Hill, Pa. He is of Holland stock, on the paternal side, and of French and English, on the maternal side. He was educated at Muhlenberg College, of Allentown, Pa. He then entered the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania, graduating therefrom in 1884. In 1898 he located at Plainfield, where he has established a good practice. Dr. Van Horn is a member of the American Medical Association, the Union County Medical Society, and the Plainfield Medical Association. He is also a member of the Congregational church. On May 11, 1887, Dr. Van Horn married Miss Margaret Smith, of Delaware, N. J. They have two living children, Miriam H. and Alice R. Dr. Van Horn resides at 452 West Fifth street. On January 29, 1901, Dr. Van Horn was appointed clinical assistant in the eye and ear department at Muhlenberg Hospital.

JOSEPH HENRY BUCHANAN, M.D., was born at Scotch Plains, N. J., January 12, 1871. His ancestors were Scotch, having settled in America during the Revolutionary period. He is the son of J. C. and Hannah S. (Rea) Buchanan, both natives of Hunterdon county, N. J. Dr. Buchanan's father was for eleven years pastor of the Baptist church at Scotch Plains. He is at present filling a pulpit at Pemberton, N. J. Dr. Buchanan received his early education in the public schools at Pemberton. Later he entered Peddie Institute, at Highstown, N. J., where he was graduated in 1889, having been chosen valedictorian of his class. The same year he entered Princeton College and was graduated therefrom in 1893, receiving high honors. During the same year he entered Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, and in 1896 received his degree of M. D. During his senior year he was president of the W. W. Keen Surgical Society; also was a private student of Prof. W. W. Keen. He also studied under Drs. D. Braden Kyle and J. Chalmers DeCosta at their laboratory of bacteriology and clinical microscopy. Dr. Buchanan was appointed resident physician of Jefferson Medical College for one term, which was completed in 1897. In June, 1896, he stood third in the State medical examinations, and was granted a license to practice in the State of New Jersey. During his freshman course at Jefferson Medical College, he was made assistant demonstrator of histology. At Princeton College he was a member of the Clio-soppic Society. In April, 1898, Dr. Buchanan began the practice of his profession at North Plainfield, where he has been very successful. On February 17, 1898, he married Miss Liddie S. Collom, of Pemberton, N. J. A daughter, Mary C., has been born to the union. Dr. Buchanan resides at 43 Duer street, North Plainfield, where he also maintains his office. He is a member of the Plainfield Medical Association, the Somerset District Medical Society, and is examining physician for Plainfield Camp, No. 54, Order of Grand Fraternity. In 1898 he was appointed borough physician, a position he still retains. He is a Republican and takes considerable interest in the political questions of the day.





H. C. VAN EMBURGH,  
Borough and Township Engineer.

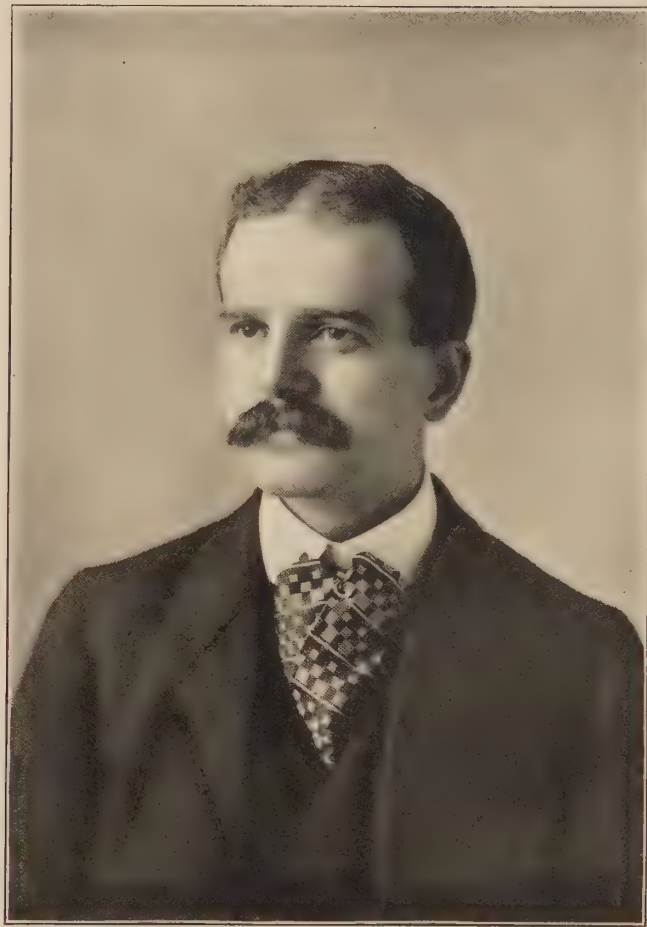


WILLIAM TITUS KIRK.



FRANK WHITNEY FRENCH, D. D. S.





VINCENT W. BAKER, D.D.S.

PETER BODINE CREGAR, M.D.—Among the physicians of Plainfield who can claim a share of the town's best patronage is Dr. Peter Bodine Cregar. Although comparatively a new practitioner here, he has won confidence and respect by his successes. Dr. Cregar was born at Annandale, Hunterdon county, N. J., February 28, 1871. He is the son of John D. and Eleanor (Bodine) Cregar. After attending the public school at home, he entered the South Jersey Institute, at Bridgeton, N. J., to prepare for Bucknell university, which he entered in 1891, graduating there in 1895 with the degree of Bachelor of Science. While in college he took great interest in athletics, and during his senior year he was captain of the baseball and manager of the football teams. In 1895 he matriculated in the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), graduating there in 1899 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine, his work in surgery receiving honorable mention. He then entered the city hospital of Williamsport, Pa., as house surgeon, where he held that position until locating in his native State, at Plainfield, October 1, 1900.

VINCENT W. BAKER, D.D.S., was born at Bound Brook, N. J., July 4, 1866. His father, Abram Baker, was a merchant doing business in New York City, but now retired and residing at Asbury Park, N. J. Dr. Baker, when a boy, was a pupil at the Plainfield public schools, and later graduated from the Asbury Park high school. Early in life he decided to take up the study of dentistry. After devoting the usual period of study at the New York College of Dentistry, he was graduated therefrom in 1887 and located in Plainfield in 1889. Dr. Baker married Miss Bessie Hull, a daughter of Mrs. W. L. Hull, of Plainfield, in 1893.

schools of that place. For the past twenty-six years Dr. Thiers has been a resident of Plainfield, where he has successfully practised his profession. He resides at No. 44 Grove street, North Plainfield, where he also retains his office. He is a member of the First Baptist church, the I. O. O. F., the American Mechanics, the I. O. R. M., and the Park club. Dr. Thiers has been twice married. His first wife, who was Miss Ellen Van Voorhees, died in 1884. One child was born to this marriage, William J. R. Fields Thiers, now married and residing in Plainfield. His present wife was Miss Florence L. Pelletreau, of Brooklyn, N. Y.



CHARLES W. LEONARD, D.D.S.

CHARLES W. LEONARD, D.D.S., is a native of Paradise, Annapolis county, Nova Scotia, where he was born April 15, 1870. He is a son of William L. and Julia Maria (Morse) Leonard. His mother is a lineal descendant of Mary Howland, daughter of John Howland, who came over to America in the Mayflower. The Leonards are of New England stock, the branch of the subject's family having settled in Nova Scotia more than four generations ago. Dr. Leonard received a public school education, where he took a teacher's license course. In 1895 he began the study of dentistry, attending the University of Maryland. Prior to his course in college, Dr. Leonard was for a period of one year connected with the New York Press, in the advertising department. While pursuing his studies, between the terms, he acted in the same capacity for periods of six months each, in the employ of the New York Journal. In the spring of 1898 Dr. Leonard received his degree. He then accepted a position with L. T. Sheffield, D.M.D. (Harvard degree), inventor of that branch of dentistry known as bridge work. After remaining six months with Dr. Sheffield, Dr. Leonard located at Plainfield, where he opened his present office at the corner of Front street and Park avenue. In October, 1900, he extended his profession by buying a practice at Elizabeth. During his junior term at college,



CHARLES R. THIERS, D.D.S.

CHARLES RUDOLPH THIERS, D.D.S., was born December 3, 1849, at Raritan Landing, now a part of New Brunswick, N. J. He obtained his education in the public

Dr. Leonard received the gold medal for crown work and an honorable mention for plate work. At the senior course he received the gold medal on crown work and honorable mention on bridge work and gold filling.

FRANK WHITNEY FRENCH, D.D.S., was born in Plainfield, where he has resided all his life. His education was obtained at Mr. Leal's private school for boys and at the New York Military School at Cornwall-on-Hudson. After the completion of his education he decided to learn dental surgery. He entered that department of the New York University, from which he was graduated with the degree of D.D.S. Dr. French immediately began the practice of his profession at North Plainfield, being located at 8 Craig place. He is a member of the Park Club, the Park Golf Club, and of the First M. E. Church. He is a son of Mr. L. M. French, manufacturer of carriages, and whose family has long been identified with the growth and development of Plainfield.

FRANK L. C. MARTIN was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., January 2, 1865, being the son of J. Marc and Marie Martin. He received his education in the public schools of Plainfield, which he attended until 1881, when he entered upon his business career by accepting a position with a large fur house in New York city, where he remained for six months, after which he associated himself with his father, who was a prominent insurance broker, doing business in New York. A year later, Mr. Martin entered the employ of a prominent banking and brokerage firm in Wall street, with whom he remained for nine years. His advancement was rapid, he having entered the establishment as an office boy, later being promoted to the position of assistant cashier. In 1890, the year in which his father died, he resigned his position with the banking house in order to assume the management of the insurance brokerage business. He successfully conducted that business until 1893, but in the meantime he had become interested in the bicycle business, which enterprise became so extensive that he was obliged to dispose of his insurance interests. Mr. Martin bears the distinction of being the pioneer bicycle dealer in New Jersey. He began his operations in that line in 1889, at Plainfield, N. J., in a small way. In 1892 he established a branch store in New Brunswick. In 1895 Mr. Martin entered into business relations with Frederick Keer, of Newark, and incorporated under the name of the Keer & Martin Cycle Company, which conducted a large establishment in Newark, N. J., with a branch in East Orange, N. J. The business in Plainfield is conducted under the name of Frank L. C. Martin Cycle Company, also incorporated, but being separate and distinct from the Newark house. In 1898 a complete line of sporting goods was added to the business, and in 1900, owing to business interests in other directions, Mr. Keer resigned and Mr. Herman J. Koehler, of Upper Montclair, was taken into the business and the corporate name changed to the Martin-Koehler Sporting Goods Company. Mr. Martin is regarded as authority on all cycling subjects, and has done more to advance the interests of that sport than any other one man in New Jersey. He was an active member of the Plainfield Bicycle Club from 1885 to 1896, and served as captain for seven years. He is a member of a number of prominent bicycle clubs in New Jersey; is an active member of Anchor Lodge, F. & A. M.; Mystic Shrine; Trinity Commandery, Ancient Order of United Workmen; Exempt Firemen; Alert Hose Company; Westfield Golf Club, and the Newark Athletic Club. Mr. Martin is a prominent member of the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, having been identified with the organization since 1886. He has resided in Plainfield since 1876.

FRANK HOWARD SMITH was born at Westerly, R. I., May 26, 1869, locating at Plainfield with his parents when a boy ten years of age. He is a son of Thaddeus C. Smith, now connected with the Potter Printing Press Company. His mother was Miss Susan P. Capron, daughter of Royal Capron, of Ashaway, R. I. Mr. Smith was educated in the Plainfield public schools. After leaving school he began his business career as an office-boy in the employ of the Potter Press Company. He was rapidly advanced until he was made paymaster of that establishment, a position he held for five years, at which time he resigned to organize the Monarch Printing Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer. Mr. Smith is a staunch Republican and has always taken an active part in politics. In 1898 he was elected to the Common Council. In 1899 he was made president of that body, having been the youngest man that honor was ever conferred upon since Plainfield became a city. On July 9, 1900, he resigned the position to enter upon the duties of tax collector, to which he had been elected. He is a member of the Republican County Executive Committee, is prominent among the Odd Fellows, being a past grand master of Queen City Lodge, No. 226; is past chief patriarch of Noah Dove Encampment; past excellent senator of K. A. E. O., and the first person in the State of New Jersey to hold the latter position. Mr. Smith is also a prominent member of the local social organization known as "The Club." On September 29, 1897, Mr. Smith married Miss Marietta E., daughter of Senator Bentley, of Rhode Island. They reside at No. 311 Madison avenue. Mr. Smith has always taken a deep interest in the civic administration of Plainfield. He has always discharged the duties of the various positions he has held, fearlessly and in the interests of the whole community. His recent re-election to the office of Tax Collector is evidence of his ability to fill the position to the satisfaction of the voters, irrespective of party affiliations.

RICHARD HENRY DEPEW, insurance broker, was born December 3, 1863, in New York City. In 1865 his parents removed to Plainfield, where he attended the public schools, graduating from the high school in 1880. Shortly after his graduation, Mr. Depew engaged in mercantile pursuits. In 1887 he became a member of the insurance brokerage firm of Abm. S. See & Depew, New York City, of which he is now the surviving partner. The firm was originally established in 1857 and is now the oldest existing fire insurance brokerage firm in New York. Mr. Depew's business career has been very successful. His unassuming manner has brought the firm numerous clients, and they enjoy a reputation that compares favorably to any in the country. Mr. Depew is well known, socially, in Plainfield. He is a member of the Hillside Tennis and Golf Club and of Grace Protestant Episcopal church. He is independent in politics and has never held or desired political favors. He was united in marriage June 8, 1887, with Miss Elizabeth G. Drayton, of Plainfield. Three children have been born to the union, two of whom are now living. Mr. Depew occupies a new and handsome house, recently erected by him, on Hillside avenue, an illustration of which appears on another page in this volume.

JOHN H. ADELMANN is a native of New Jersey, having been born and reared at Newark. When twenty years old he secured a position as tow boy on a horse car line in his native town. Always of a polite disposition and punctual and careful in his habits, he was soon promoted. After filling the humble position for some months, he was given





R. HENRY DEPEW.



FRANK L. C. MARTIN.



FRANK HOWARD SMITH.  
City Tax Collector.





GEO. W. ROCKFELLOW.

the position of a regular driver. Later he worked in the repair shops, and again was conductor, being in the employ of the old Newark-Irvington road for three years. His subsequent career seemed to be as varied as his promotions were rapid. In 1893 he was made general manager of the Plainfield Street Railway Company's lines, succeeding S. A. Passmore. Mr. Adelmann is a thoroughly self-made man, and his record is one to be proud of. Mr. Adelmann's family consists of his wife and two children, one of them a daughter, Eugenie; the other a son, David A., who acts as his father's secretary.

GEORGE W. COLE is a native of Plainfield, N. J., having been born in that city April 1, 1860. He is the son of Mulford and Emeline (Shotwell) Cole, both of whom were born in Plainfield. When a boy, Mr. Cole attended the public schools. In 1888 he engaged in the undertaking business, a vocation he has since followed, being located at No. 200 West Second street. Mr. Cole is a member of Perseverance Lodge, No. 74, Knights of Pythias; Columbia Lodge, No. 58, A. O. U. W.; and Protective Conclave, No. 505, Improved Order Heptasophs. He has always been a staunch Republican, but has never held or desired to hold any office. On February 28, 1889, Mr. Cole married Miss Maud B. Herbert, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have four children—George H., Edna, Clifford, and Adelaide.

JOHN HENRY CAMPBELL, merchant, is a native of Plainfield, having been born in that city, June 25, 1861. His father, E. A. Campbell, resided in Plainfield for about forty years. The subject of this sketch received a common-school education, graduating from the Plainfield high school. He then took a course of study at a business college, after which he accepted a position with a large wholesale millinery establishment in New York City. Later Mr. Campbell became interested in Florida orange groves, and is at present largely engaged in the cultivation of fruit of that variety. In 1894 he entered into a partnership with Charles B. Clifton, engaging in the wholesale produce commission business, under the firm name of Clifton & Campbell, and now doing business at No. 230 Park avenue, Plainfield. In 1899 Mr. Campbell purchased the property on North avenue, now known as the Hotel Kensington. Believing that Plainfield was in need of a first-class commercial hotel, he made extensive improvements to the building. It is now conducted by Mr. John A. Staats, and ranks as one of the leading hotels of New Jersey. Mr. Campbell is a member of the Commission Merchants' League, and of the Presbyterian church at Metuchen, N. J. On June 21, 1888, he was united in marriage to Miss Eva L. Kelly, of Oak Tree, N. J. They have two children, a daughter, aged eleven years, and a son, five years old.

JOHN JOSEPH KENNEY was born at Whitehouse Station, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, May 24, 1858. His parents were John J. Kenney and Mary Kenney, who emigrated from Ireland in 1848. He was educated in the schools of his native place. In 1878 he took up his residence in Plainfield, and was employed by C. Potter, Jr., & Co. Shortly after he engaged in the shoe trade and has done a successful business in that line ever since. His place of business is one of the most prominent in town and is known as "Kenney's Korner." Mr. Kenney has always been identified with public movements. In almost every proposed improvement he has been one of the first to take hold in any capacity that required spirit, energy and push. This activity has made him prominent in clubs and other organizations of which he has been a member, and in

various local celebration he has been a useful member of finance committees. He was a member of the Crescent Club, the Catholic Club, and other local organizations, and has taken deep interest in athletic sports. He is one of the best-known men in Plainfield and has an exceedingly wide acquaintance in all this section of the country. In politics he has always been a Democrat, and has served on some of the committees during political campaigns. In these and all other matters he is fearless and outspoken, his independence being a strong characteristic. In 1886 he married Miss Mary Hughes. A boy and girl grace the union.

ANDREW ELLSWORTH KENNEY was born at Whitehouse Station, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, March 4, 1863. His father, John J. Kenney, and mother, Mary Kenney, emigrated to this country in 1848 from Ireland. He received a public school education at his birthplace. He began business life as a telegraph operator, but his duties covered the various branches of railroad work. He was connected with the Central Railroad of New Jersey at Plainfield, and was the first manager of the United States Express Company there. He has always been interested in literary and journalistic matters, and has been a correspondent for the Plainfield "Courier-News" for several years. He established a journal called the "Emerald," an organization journal, and published "Via Coeli," a Catholic service book. His present business is that of compressed air engineering at 39 Cortlandt street, New York. Several years ago he took up the study of compressed air and became the editor of "Compressed Air," the only journal in the world devoted to that subject. During the past season he has given several lectures on the uses of compressed air and liquid air, in the public schools of New York and elsewhere. He is the vice-president and general manager of the Compressed Air House Cleaning Company of New York. Mr. Kenney has been an aggressive member of the Democratic party in North Plainfield, and has been chairman of many campaign and executive committees during the past fifteen years. He has been a most ardent advocate of the consolidation of Plainfield and North Plainfield and has lost no opportunity in bringing this matter forward for public discussion. He has contributed several forcible articles on this subject to local papers. In 1885 Mr. Kenney married Miss Elizabeth Keegan, a graduate of the North Plainfield public school. The family consists of two boys.

DAVID THOMAS KENNEY was born at White House, Hunterdon county, New Jersey, April 3, 1866, of Irish parents. After receiving a common school education, he located in Plainfield at the age of fifteen and began as an apprentice to the plumbing trade, during which time he took up the study of sanitary engineering. In 1891 he embarked in the plumbing business on North avenue, Plainfield, and also took an active interest in real estate, having built and sold several houses. He was one of the first to build, and made the first sale of a house in Watchung Park (Fairview avenue). Mr. Kenney believes Plainfield is a good place to be known as a resident of, and attributes his success largely to his acquaintanceship with many of its kind and prominent residents. In 1895 he demonstrated the practical operation of his invention, which he named the "Flushometer," and for which several United States and foreign patents have been granted. In 1896 he organized the Kenney Sanitary Manufacturing Company, of which he was president and general manager. By his energy a large business has been built up. In 1898 another company, known as The Kenney Company, was organized, and in which he is actively engaged. The result is, that his invention, The Kenney Flushometer System, is known and sold throughout the world. Mr. Kenney was married to Miss Catherine A.

Gleason, of New Brunswick, New Jersey. A daughter graces their union. In politics, Mr. Kenney is a Democrat; in religion a Roman Catholic, and is an attendant of St. Joseph's church, North Plainfield; he is also a resident member of the Catholic Club of New York city. He at present resides at No. 12 Rockview avenue.

S. B. CARSON, the business manager of Crosby & Hile, was born in Cookstown, County Tyrone, Ireland, May 12, 1861, where he received his education at the academy of that place. He entered the mercantile business in his native town, April 1, 1879, and after serving an apprenticeship of four years, came to this country and located in Williamsport, Pa. September 1, 1894, he entered the employment of Crosby & Hile. In February, 1899, he located in Plainfield, where he assumed the management of the extensive department store of Messrs. Crosby & Hile. This establishment is one of the most important of its kind in New Jersey. The present house was established at Wilmington, Del., in 1878 by W. K. Crosby and Joseph Hile, and is now one of the largest and best known concerns in that State and has shown a steady and prosperous growth from the beginning. On the 20th of March, 1897, the firm opened their Morristown branch, which has also been very successful. The Plainfield branch, of which Mr. Carson is in charge, has filled a long required want by the shopping public of the vicinity. The establishment compares favorably with the largest metropolitan department stores and offers a very comprehensive and varied stock, such as is found in any modern department store, and the success it is meeting with has given the establishment the title of first rank among the business houses of Plainfield.

JOSEPH CROSS ALLEN was born May 17, 1863, at Fairmount, Hunterdon county, N. J., being the third of a family of fourteen children, nine boys and five girls, eleven of whom are still living, three having died in infancy. Daniel L. Allen, his father, now deceased, was the son of William L. Allen, of Somerset county, mentioned in the story of an "Old Farm, or Life in New Jersey in the Eighteenth Century." William L. Allen's wife, Joseph's grandmother, was Harriet Ludlow, a cousin of ex-Governor Ludlow, of New Jersey, recently deceased. Joseph Cross Allen's mother, Sarah Ann, was the only child of Samuel Cross, of Somerset county, a direct descendent of one of the earliest ministers in that part of New Jersey—the Rev. John Cross, mentioned in the "History of the Presbyterian Church in America" as follows: "John Cross, styled by Dr. Brownlee a Scottish worthy, was decorated as a member of the synod in 1732, and settled at a place called the Mountain, back of Newark." The remarkable revival in his congregation held there in 1734-35 is noticed in Edwards' "Thoughts on Revivals": . . . "He was the minister of Basking Ridge and Staten Island, and was one of the first members of the New Brunswick Presbytery. He distinguished himself greatly by his zeal and success during the great revival. Whitfield was refreshed by meeting him and Gilbert Tennent on Staten Island, in 1740, and by hearing from him of the wonderful things often seen under his ministry." The following is taken from an address published by Dr. Rankin, recently deceased, former pastor at Basking Ridge: "In 1733 the name of Basking Ridge first appears on the pages of our ecclesiastical records. There was yet no church at Morristown. There was, in fact, no such town. That place was then known as West Hanover. The first minister of the Gospel known to have labored here was the Rev. John Cross, who became a member of the Synod of

Philadelphia in the year 1732, and seems to have begun his labors in that year. . . . Rev. J. M. Cross, of Baltimore, was a grandson of John Cross." Joseph Cross Allen's mother is still living, as is also her mother, who was Sarah Lewis, born March 19, 1814, and who is a direct descendent of Rev. Thomas Lewis, referred to in the "History of the Presbyterian Church in America": "Thomas Lewis graduated at Yale in 1741, in the class with Gov. Livingston, Buell, Hopkins, Brainerd and Youngs. He was installed pastor of the North Society, in New Fairfield, Conn., March 28, 1744. He was zealous for the revival, and joined in inviting Whitfield to visit the Colony." Lewis afterwards accepted a call to Bethlehem, N. J., where the work of revival was carried on. Joseph Cross Allen, the subject of this sketch, received his early education in the public schools at Liberty Corner and at Mt. Prospect, N. J. He is engaged in manufacturing pharmaceutical and hygienic wares for the wholesale trade. For the past twenty years he has resided in Plainfield, and for about seventeen years prior to his coming to Plainfield he resided in Somerset county, N. J. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church; the Y. M. C. A.; Nassau Council, No. 822, Royal Arcanum; Plainfield Council, No. 60, Loyal Additional Benefit Association, and Columbia Lodge, No. 56, A. O. U. W. Mr. Allen was married to Miss Edith A. Redcliffe, of New Haven, Conn., September 23, 1891. They have one child—Frederick Redcliffe, aged eight years. Sarah Lewis, grandmother of the subject, and above referred to, passed away May 17, 1901.

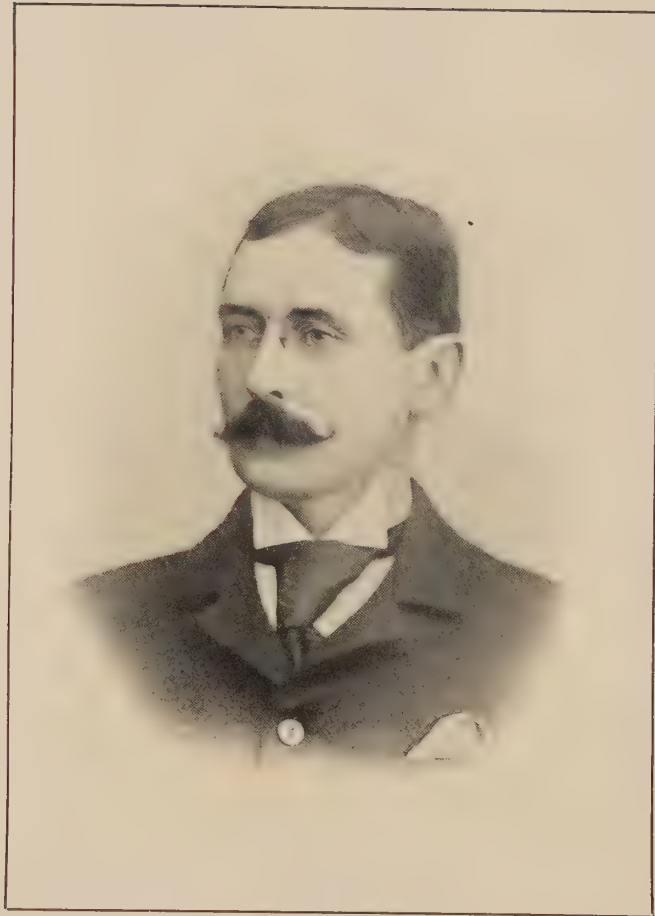
LEWIS WARREN RANDOLPH, pharmacist, was born at Plainfield, N. J., January 21, 1860. He received his education in the public schools of Plainfield. At the age of sixteen he connected himself with the Plainfield pharmacy, where he remained for eleven years, in the meantime pursuing a course of studies at the New York College of Pharmacy. In June, 1887, he, with Mr. James C. Field, formed the partnership of Field & Randolph. Two years later he bought Mr. Field's interest, and his establishment is the leading one of its kind in the city, being located at No. 143 West Front street. Mr. Randolph is a deacon of the First Baptist church and is superintendent of the East Third street chapel. On September 18, 1884, he married Miss Laura Antoinette Fitz Randolph, of Plainfield, N. J. They reside in a handsome home at No. 15 Myrtle avenue, North Plainfield, erected by Mr. Randolph three years ago.

H. C. VAN EMBURGH, Civil Engineer, was born in Newark, N. J. He has been a resident of Plainfield since 1881 and is now engaged in the practice of civil engineering and surveying in that city. He first became known to the public as Assistant County Engineer during the construction of the Union County Road System between the years 1889 and 1893. He was afterward resident engineer in charge of street improvements and sewer construction in Dunkirk, Poughkeepsie and Hornellsville, N. Y., and Sewickley, Pa., and later held the position of division engineer on the construction of the Plainfield sewerage system. At the completion of the last-mentioned work, Mr. Van Emburgh opened an office in Plainfield for the practice of his profession. In 1898 he was appointed Borough Engineer of Roselle, N. J., and in 1899 Township Engineer of Westfield, N. J., and Borough Engineer of North Plainfield, all of which offices he still holds. Mr. Van Emburgh has also acted as engineer for the Elizabeth, Plainfield and Central Jersey Railway Company since 1898, and during that time has had charge of the engineering department, both on the preliminary surveys and construction of about fifty-nine





JOHN J. KENNEY.

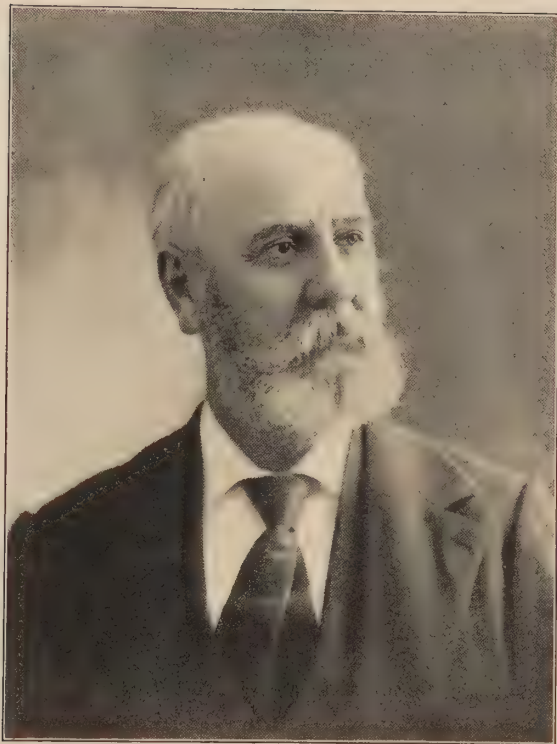


ANDREW E. KENNEY.



DAVID T. KENNEY.





CHARLES E. BUELL



C. B. CLIFTON.



JOHN H. CAMPBELL.



miles of electric railway in Somerset, Union and Middlesex counties. Mr. Van Emburgh was appointed a member of the first Board of Assessors of the City of Plainfield from the First Ward in 1898 by Mayor C. J. Fisk. He held the same office under Mayor G. W. Rockfellow, and has lately been reappointed to the position by Mayor O. L. Jenkins. He has been secretary of the board since his first appointment.

JOHN A. STAATS was born in Warren county, this State, December 25, 1861, where his boyhood was passed. On completing his education in the public school, he took a graduate course in Bryant & Stratton's business college at Newark, N. J. From early life Mr. Staats has been engaged in the hotel business, his father being an old, experienced hotel man. In 1899 Mr. Staats assumed charge of the Hotel Kensington, at Plainfield, N. J. Under his management the house has attained a high standard and properly ranks among the best in the State of New Jersey. The house contains sixty bed-chambers, single and en suite, and is supplied with all the modern improvements. The cuisine compares favorably with any of the hotels in the larger cities. In 1885 Mr. Staats married Miss Anna, daughter of the late James Hance, of Hackettstown, N. J. Mr. Staats is genial and companionable. Always looking after the comforts and wants of his patrons, he has earned a reputation in the Middle-Atlantic States, as a hotel man, that is second to none. He is ever ready to assist in any public enterprise that tends towards the advancement of Plainfield.

ADAM DEALAMAN, postmaster at Dunellen, N. J., was born at New York City, July 19, 1853. His father, Moritz Dealaman, came to America many years ago from Germany, settling in New York, where he engaged in the



ADAM DEALAMAN.

boot and shoe business. Adam Dealaman, when a boy, went to Warrenville, N. Y., where he attended the public schools. After leaving school he became an apprentice to the carriage trade. After completing his apprenticeship, and while an

expert workman, he met with an accident which compelled him to abandon that line of work. He accepted a position as clerk in a grocery store, in which he continued for several years. He, with a brother, engaged in the same business at Newark, N. J. After continuing in that connection for ten years, Mr. Dealaman sold his interest to his brother and located in Dunellen, where he opened a general store, and which subsequently grew into a prosperous business. On July 1, 1899, Mr. Dealaman was appointed postmaster at Dunellen. He was recently reappointed to the same position for a new term of four years. Mr. Dealaman served as clerk and treasurer of the borough for two years; he has also served two terms as a member of the Common Council and School Board. He is a member of the Junior American Mechanics, Forresters, Anchor Lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M. (Plainfield). He is also a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Dealaman has twice been married. His first wife, who died in 1890, was Miss Elizabeth Dunham, to whom two children were born—Josephine May and William M. Mr. Dealaman's present wife was Miss Margaret Teel, of Phillipsburg, N. J. By this marriage two children have been born—Adam T. and Kenneth T. Mr. Dealaman is an active Republican and always takes a deep interest in the leading political questions of the day. He resides in a handsome home at 120 Washington avenue, Dunellen.

NEWTON B. SMALLEY, mayor of North Plainfield, was born near Liberty Corner, Somerset county, N. J., January 6, 1859. When he was nine months of age his parents removed to Plainfield. Here he attended the public schools, where he received his education. Mr. Smalley has always taken a deep political interest in the local, state and national affairs of the Republican party. He is a member of the county executive committee; was elected a member of the common council of North Plainfield, in 1890; in 1899 he became mayor of North Plainfield, and in 1901 was re-elected to that office. Under his administration the borough government has been ably and economically conducted. Mr. Smalley's name has been prominently mentioned for the office of sheriff of Somerset county. He is a member and president of the U. S. Grant Republican Club; vice-president of the Speedway Association. Mr. Smalley is engaged in the meat business in Plainfield, besides having extensive interests in stone quarries. On December 13, 1893, he married Miss Frederica Becker. Four children have been born to the union—Clarence I., Ellen, Elizabeth, and Charles B., the latter named now being deceased.

ELIAS H. BIRD, postmaster of Plainfield, was born in Somerset county, N. J., February 26, 1860. When ten years of age, his widowed mother removed to North Plainfield, where he attended the local public schools. Politically, Mr. Bird is a staunch Republican, and has on several occasions been made recipient of political favors from his party. From 1892 to 1895, inclusive, he served as a member of the Plainfield City Council; in 1896 was elected City Collector, but it was discovered that the incumbent of the office at that time still had an additional year to serve. In 1897, however, Mr. Bird was elected a second time to fill that position, the term being for three years. After serving for eighteen months he received his present appointment, that of postmaster. Resigning from the office of collector, he immediately entered upon the duties of his new position, which he has continued to fill, with entire satisfaction to the public at large. Mr. Bird is a member of Plainfield Lodge, No. 44, I. O. O. F., of which for the past

ten years he has been financial secretary. He is a member of Anchor Lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M.; Columbia Lodge, No. 58, A. O. U. W.; Senate Lodge, K. of H.; Improved Order Heptasophs; Exempt Firemen Association; Encampment No. 28, I. O. O. F. Mr. Bird married Miss Ella Staats, daughter of Mr. Louis Staats, an old resident of Plainfield.

ANDREW J. GAVETT was born at Boston, Mass., September 19, 1853. In 1862 his parents removed to Plainfield, where he attended the public schools. After finishing the common school course he began the study of civil engineering and surveying, a profession he still follows. Mr. Gavett is a member of the Camera Club, the Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church and the Y. M. C. A. He is a Republican and for several years has ably filled the positions of Street Commissioner and City Surveyor. On August 18, 1885, Mr. Gavett married Miss Cornelia Anderson, of New Rochelle, N. Y. They have two living children.

GEORGE W. ROCKFELLOW, former Mayor of Plainfield, was born at Bound Brook, N. J., January 4, 1846. For the past twenty-nine years he has been a resident of Plainfield, carrying on the business of a merchant. Twice he has held the office of Mayor, viz.: from 1884-85 and from 1899-1900. He has been president of the Board of Trade, president of the State Grocers' Association, and vice-president of the Plainfield Dime Savings Bank. He is a prominent member of the Congregational Church, and was for fourteen years superintendent of the Sunday-school. He was married April 25, 1872, to Cornelia J. Mollison, of Bound Brook, N. J. To this union have been born five children: George A., Cornelia, John S. (deceased), Herbert and Roland R. Mr. Rockfellow is of German and Scotch ancestry. The family on Mrs. Rockfellow's side are proud of the circumstance that her grandmother let down the bars for American officers to pass through while they were pursued by the British at Bound Brook, in the time of the Revolution.

FRED. C. LOUNSBURY was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., July 20, 1857, and educated in the public schools of that city, completing their course of study. When not quite sixteen years of age, he entered the employ of a large manufacturing concern, remaining with them for a number of years, his special work being the introduction of their goods in various large cities, in which work he introduced many original and novel methods of advertising. In 1879 he entered the wholesale cardboard trade in New York city and worked his way to the head of one of the largest houses in that line, his skill as an organizer and originator of new goods and methods being recognized throughout the trade. In 1892 his health gave way through overwork, and he was forced to retire for a considerable period from all active business, remaining quietly on his place in this city. When again in condition to enter the business arena, he declined tempting offers from New York parties and decided to locate here, organizing the Crescent Embossing Company, of which he is president and manager, and which has grown to be one of the permanent and successful industries of our city. Mr. Lounsbury and family moved to Plainfield in 1887, renting the Dr. Smille place on Plainfield avenue, which he subsequently purchased and improved, and where they still reside. He is a member of the First Presbyterian church, also of several of our local societies, and was one of the organizers and first president of the new Board of Trade, and headed the opposition to the attempt to collect from innocent purchasers, under the Martin act, taxes levied prior to 1881, which oppo-

sition proved successful in the courts, to the great relief of very many property owners, who had purchased their property without any knowledge of these ancient taxes. In national and State politics Mr. Lounsbury is a staunch Republican, but is outspoken in his views and believes in independence in municipal matters when necessary, and is a firm advocate of municipal ownership; he has been twice elected a member of the Board of Education, having served on that board for almost ten years, the last five of which he has served as secretary of the board. In 1898 he accepted the nomination for mayor on the independent citizens' ticket, but was defeated by George W. Rockfellow, the regular Republican candidate, but only by a majority of 298, which is the smallest majority that the Republican candidate had received in recent years. Mr. Lounsbury was married on September 15, 1880, to Miss Catharine C. Wandell, of Brooklyn, N. Y. They have eight children living, four girls and four boys. He is descended from English ancestry, who came to this country previous to the Revolution and settled in Connecticut, near the New York line; the family is very prominent in the history of the former State, having furnished in recent years the unusual spectacle of two brothers, Phineas C. and George Lounsbury, each of whom has served as Governor of the State, both being elected on the regular Republican ticket. Mr. Lounsbury's parents moved from Connecticut to Brooklyn shortly before his birth, and a few years later his father died, leaving a widow and nine children, of which the subject of this sketch was the youngest. His mother was without means, but had remarkable determination and a strong Christian character, and though the struggle was a hard one, she kept the family together and succeeded in raising them all to manhood and womanhood, a loving mother's care and training, coupled with a mother's prayers, proving of more true worth than riches; they were early taught to depend upon their own efforts, and each in turn took up the battle of life, their capital consisting of a common school education and the inspiring influence and example of a devoted Christian mother.

ROGER FRANKLIN MURRAY, son of John W. and Mary S. (Davison) Murray, was born in New York city, December 6, 1864. In 1867 his parents removed to Plainfield, where he attended the public schools. After receiving a common school education, he entered Pingrey's private school in Elizabeth, where he graduated. Mr. Murray conducts an extensive insurance brokerage business in New York city, being located in the New York Produce Exchange building. In Plainfield, where he has so long resided and is so well and favorably known, he has taken a considerable interest in politics. He was elected on the Republican ticket in 1898 to the New Jersey Assembly, and re-elected to the same office in 1899. For the past ten years he has been a member of the city and county Republican committee. Mr. Murray is a member of Anchor lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M.; Hillside, Park and Westfield Golf clubs; Crescent Avenue Presbyterian church, and the Young Men's Christian Association. He served for eight years with the Alert hose company, and during that time filled the positions of treasurer, first and second assistant foreman of the organization. He remained a member of the company until it disbanded, at the time the city created a paid fire department. Mr. Murray married Miss Nettie M. Hetfield, of Plainfield, October 2, 1898. They reside in a handsome home at No. 901 Madison avenue, where they are well known socially.

FRANK WILLITS RUNYON was born December 2, 1859, his parents being Alexander M. and Elizabeth Willits



JOSEPH CROSS ALLEN.





JOHN A. STAATS.

Runyon, both of whom are still living. He was graduated from the Plainfield High School with the class of 1876, prepared for college at the Pingrey School at Elizabeth, and entered Cornell to be graduated with the class of 1883. While at college, he was for two years editor of the Cornell Era, the students' journal. His newspaper work began with the New York Sun, with which he was connected several years, afterwards gaining his editorial experience on the Philadelphia Press. He bought the Central New Jersey Times September 1, 1890. In public life, he held the office of City Clerk during 1892 and 1893, retiring in the latter year to devote himself exclusively to his newspapers. He is a member of the First Baptist Church and of the Masonic, Royal Arcanum, Loyal Additional and A. O. U. W. fraternal orders. Mr. Runyon is a descendant, on his father's side, of Huguenot stock, and is a great-great-grandson of Rev. Jacob F. Randolph, the first pastor of the First Baptist church. On his mother's side he is a descendant of Penelope Stout, whose adventures in the early pioneer history of New Jersey form an interesting chapter. He is a great-great-grandson of John Hart, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Mr. Runyon was married in 1887 to Vandelina Munnell, daughter of the late Dr. William Munnell, of Wheeling, W. Va. He has no children.

ALBERT L. FORCE was born in Plainfield in 1846. At the age of twelve he became apprenticed in the printing business, which he has followed in advancing stages from the mechanical to the managing and editorial departments of the weekly and daily newspaper. He is a member and an elder of Trinity Reformed Church, with the interests of which he has been closely associated for several years past.

EDSON COLEMAN MARTIN, merchant, was born at Deckertown, Sussex county, N. J., January 26, 1859. He attended the public schools of that place, where he received a liberal education. For the past four years Mr. Martin has been a resident of Plainfield, being a member of the firm of Woodhull & Martin, proprietors of Plainfield's largest department store, and one of the largest in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Martin married Retta Woodhull, of Chester, N. J., October 11, 1883. Three children have been born to this union, two of whom are living. Mr. Martin is a prominent member of the Presbyterian church. Politically, he is a Republican, but has never sought or desired to hold office.

FLOYD T. WOODHULL, merchant, and senior member of the firm of Woodhull & Martin, of Plainfield, N. J., was born at Chester, Morris county, N. J., September 15, 1856. He received a careful education at Chester Institute, after which he entered mercantile pursuits. Engaged in dry goods business in Morristown, N. J., for ten years. Four years ago Mr. Woodhull located in Plainfield, where, in association with his brother-in-law, Mr. Edson C. Martin, he engaged in the dry goods business. They conduct an extensive department store, which will compare favorably with the largest establishments of its kind in New York City, or elsewhere. They occupy quarters in the Babcock block, the handsomest business structure in Plainfield. The various departments are replete in everything that is to be found in the well-conducted metropolitan establishments. The firm have always pursued a liberal policy in conducting the affairs of their business. Prior to their advent in Plainfield, it was necessary for the shopper to go to New York to purchase the finer quality of goods. Today, one can make a selection from Woodhull & Martin's

stock, which comprises the finest materials gathered from the various manufacturers of the world, and at prices that are as low as could be obtained in the large cities. Mr. Woodhull is a member of the Presbyterian church, and of the Royal Arcanum. On January 8, 1887, he married Kate Bartles, of German Valley, N. J. They have two sons, LeRoy and Edson. Mr. and Mrs. Woodhull reside at No. 926 West Front street.

ROBERT CLARK, JR., manufacturer, was born September 9, 1847, at Newark, N. J., where he attended the public schools. He is of Scotch descent. His parents, Robert and Catherine (Williams) Clark, came to America from Scotland early in life. Mr. Clark is an extensive manufacturer of hats, a vocation he has followed most of his life; his factory being located at Newark. He has resided in North Plainfield for the past twelve years, where he has always taken an active part in local affairs. At the present time he is a member and president of the Borough Common Council and Chairman of Committee on Streets and Public Health. He is a member of Trinity Reformed church of Plainfield and is also a member of Eureka Lodge, F. & A. M., of Newark, N. J. On July 2, 1872, Mr. Clark married Amanda P. Martin, formerly of Plainfield, but a resident of Newark at the time of her marriage. Three sons, Robert M., Edward O. and Albert C., have been born to the union.

JAMES E. MARTINE, farmer, was born in New York City, August 25, 1849. At the age of nine years, Mr. Martine came with his father to Plainfield, where he has resided ever since, and is probably better known than any other citizen. Mr. Martine received his elementary education in the public schools of New York and Plainfield. When he was fourteen years of age his father died, when he left school to look after the interests of Cedar Brook Farm. The place is still owned and occupied by Mr. Martine, and is one of the most interesting spots, as well as one of the oldest landmarks, about Plainfield. The place was originally settled in 1698 by Thomas Gordon, a native of Scotland. The present structure, an old-fashioned, comfortable house, was built in 1717. Mr. Martine is a stanch Democrat. In 1877 he became interested in politics, being nominated for assemblyman in the old Union county third district. In 1893 he received the Democratic nomination for State Senator against Foster M. Voorhees. In 1896, Mr. Martine was nominated for mayor of Plainfield. He served one term as member of the Common Council, being elected to that body in 1872. He was largely instrumental in helping to secure the elevation of the railroad tracks. In February, 1900, the Hon. William Jennings Bryan was a guest at Cedar Brook Farm. At the last Democratic National Convention, held at Kansas City in July, 1900, Mr. Martine was delegate-at-large for the State of New Jersey. Mr. Martine is widely known as the "Farmer Orator," an appellation given him on account of a natural gift of eloquence he possesses. At the age of eighteen he delivered his first stump speech, and since that time he has been found on the rostrum in every campaign, national or State, advocating the cause of Democracy. Mr. Martine's vocation is still that of a farmer. To him, Plainfield is largely indebted for the progress made in the eastern part of the city, he having opened up and improved an extensive section of choice residential property.

EUGENE A. GROSS, deceased, was born at Cincinnati, O., October 31, 1837. On the paternal side he is of Alsatian

stock, while on the maternal side he comes of French. For a time he attended the public schools of his native city, after which he entered college at Georgetown, Ky., and finally completed his education at the Heidelberg (Germany) University, graduating in chemistry. In 1879 Mr. Gross removed to Plainfield, where he resided up to the time of his death, which occurred March 14, 1900. For many years he was engaged as a manufacturer of wax candles, being the head of the firm of A. Gross & Co., whose store was located at No. 73 Murray street, New York city, with factory at Jersey City, N. J. The firm enjoyed an enviable reputation all over the country. Mr. Gross was a progressive, public-spirited man and had numerous friends, in whose estimation he was held in high esteem. Politically he was a Democrat, but not a partisan. He was always in sympathy with pure government, administered by men worthy of trust. During the Civil war, Mr. Gross held the rank of captain and was promoted to that of major, having served under General Rosecrans. He was a prominent member of Winfield Scott post, No. 73, G. A. R., to which he always contributed liberally in a financial way. During his lifetime, Mr. Gross was largely instrumental in the development of Plainfield, and was ever ready with purse and influence to do anything that had a tendency to promote the city's interests. In charitable matters he was a liberal contributor to all worthy causes, irrespective of creed or class. On April 15, 1872, Mr. Gross married Miss Francis M. Tennant, whose family was prominent in California. She still survives him and resides in a handsome home at No. 722 West Seventh street. Mr. Gross was a thoroughly domestic man, who found much enjoyment in the circle of his own home, and his married life was a happy one.

JAMES L. SLEVIN, deceased, was born at Cincinnati, O., in 1839. He received early education in private schools of his native city, and later entered Mount St. Mary's college, near Baltimore, Md., from which he was graduated. After completing his collegiate term, he engaged in the wholesale dry goods business in Cincinnati, associated with his father, who was at that time always spoken of as "the A. T. Stewart of the West." In 1877 Mr. Slevin located in New York, where he became associated in business with the firm of A. Gross & Co., manufacturers of candles, and with whom he was connected up to the time of his death, which occurred March 29, 1900. During the Civil war Mr. Slevin enlisted and was detailed to do service in the vicinity of Cincinnati. In 1866 Mr. Slevin married Miss Emma Gross, of New York city. She still survives him. Mr. Slevin removed to Plainfield in 1884.

ELMER E. RUNYON was born in Plainfield, August 11, 1861, of Alexander M. and Elizabeth Runyon. He was educated at the Plainfield public school, leaving the high school in 1877 to assist his father in business. At the age of twenty-one he was taken into partnership by his father and is so associated under the firm name of A. M. Runyon & Son, undertakers. Mr. Runyon was married in June, 1887, to Jennie Vosselle, daughter of the late James Vosselle, for many years clerk of Union county. Two children have been born to him, Chauncey F. Runyon, who was born in 1890 and died in 1899, and Kenneth E. Runyon, born in August, 1892. Mr. Runyon is a member of many fraternal organizations, among them being the Free Masons, the Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Royal Arcanum.

CHARLES B. CLIFTON, merchant, was born at Quakertown, N. J., May 28, 1850. His father, William Clifton, who died in 1865, and a native of the same place, was born in

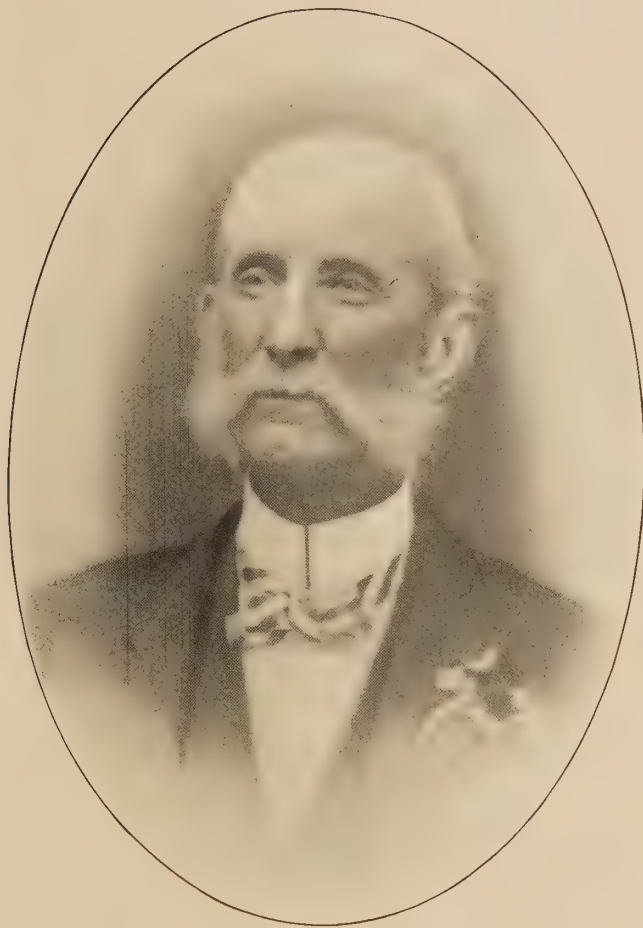
1800, being of English stock. His mother, who was Sarah L. Vail, was born in Plainfield, N. J., in 1811 and is still alive and at present living near Cincinnati, O. Mr. Clifton received his education at Providence, R. I. After leaving school he engaged in mercantile pursuits. For the past thirty years he has resided in Plainfield, and is at present engaged in the wholesale commission business, being a member of the firm of Clifton & Campbell, whose place of business is located at No. 230 Park avenue. Politically, Mr. Clifton is a Republican. He is a member of the Plainfield Common Council, representing the Third ward of the city. He is a member of the Exempt Firemen's Association; the American Order of United Workmen, and of Friends' church. His marriage occurred October 15, 1879, to Louise J. Jenkins, of Plainfield.

JAMES F. BUCKLE, a prominent business man of Plainfield, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., November 30, 1852. He received his education in the public schools of Beverly, N. J. For the past thirty years Mr. Buckle has been a resident of Plainfield, where he is engaged in business, being a member of the well-known firm of Woolston & Buckle, dealers in paints, oils, etc. Mr. Buckle has always taken a deep interest in the affairs of Plainfield. He is now serving in his second term as a member of the common council; he served in a similar capacity for one term in the borough of North Plainfield. Mr. Buckle has been a Republican all his life, and has always taken an active part in the local affairs connected with his party. He is a member of Jerusalem lodge, No. 26, F. & A. M.; Plainfield council, No. 1105, Royal Arcanum; Unity lodge, Knights of Pythias; Exempt Firemen, and of All Souls' Unitarian church. On May 4, 1876, Mr. Buckle married Miss Rosa T. Hammill, of New York City. Seven children were born to the marriage, five of whom are living.

GEORGE JAMES TOBIN, sanitary engineer, was born at Springfield, N. J., June 3, 1868. He is of Irish extraction, his father and mother both being natives of Cork, Ireland, and having emigrated to America early in the 'sixties, settling at Newark, N. J., where Mr. Tobin, Sr., engaged in the lumber business, in which he remained up to the time of his death, which occurred in 1871. Four years prior to his death he purchased a farm at Springfield, N. J., where the family resided until 1874, at which time they removed to Plainfield, where they have since continued to live. The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Plainfield, having graduated from the high school. For some years he has given attention, and made a study of, the higher branches of sanitary plumbing. In September, 1900, Mr. Tobin secured the contract for supplying the plumbing (upon which he is now at work) for the New Jersey State Reformatory. It is the largest contract of its kind ever awarded by the State. From the many bids opened, Mr. Tobin's was the most favorable to the authorities. Mr. Tobin has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the Republican party, although he has never held, or desired to hold, office. He is a member of the Lincoln club of Elizabeth, the Royal Arcanum, and of the Catholic church. On October 9, 1895, he married Mary F., daughter of John S. Ward, the well-known New York decorator, who resides in Brooklyn. They have one child, a daughter.

WILLIAM TITUS KIRK, iron contractor, was born at Cornwall, Orange county, New York, in 1864, being the only child of John N. and Elizabeth Townsend (Titus) Kirk, representatives of old Orange county families. His mother





JAMES L. SLEVIN.



EUGENE M. GROSS.



JAMES F. BUCKLE.





GEORGE J. TOBIN.

was of old Quaker stock. William, the subject of this sketch, spent his boyhood days on his grandfather's farm in Orange county. He obtained his preliminary education at the Friends' Seminary in New York City, after which, on account of impairment of his health, he returned to Cornwall and spent the three succeeding years on a farm. Subsequently he resumed his studies in the Friends' Academy, Glen Cove, Long Island, where he remained two years, after which he began the study of law in New York City, where he remained for three years. Abandoning the law, he became connected with the German-American Fire Insurance Company, of New York City, a position he continued to fill for two and a half years. The succeeding three years were spent in the employ of Milliken Brothers, iron contractors, New York City. After mastering the latter business in every branch, Mr. Kirk engaged in that line on his own account, locating at Plainfield, N. J., where he has remained ever since. He has constructed nearly all the iron bridges throughout Union county, making for him a high reputation which extends over a large section of the East. In November, 1896, Mr. Kirk was elected Sheriff of Union county by a majority of forty-three hundred votes, one of the largest ever received by a candidate for that position. Out of three thousand votes cast in Plainfield, he received two thousand three hundred. He was the youngest Sheriff ever elected in Union county. Mr. Kirk is a member of the Union County Club, the Mattano Club of Elizabeth, the League of American Wheelmen, and the Baltusrol and Westfield Golf Clubs. He has resided in Plainfield since 1883.



FRANK C. LANGHORNE.

FRANK C. LANGHORNE, photographer, is a native of New York City. In 1878 he removed from that place to Plainfield, where he engaged in the photographic business, and still resides. Mr. Langhorne has always been regarded

as the representative photographer of Plainfield. For many years he has done work for the leading families of this city. He furnished the photographs for the reproduction of the portraits appearing in the *Courier-News'* history of Plainfield, the results of which are very gratifying to the subjects and the publishers. Mr. Langhorne's studio is located at No. 107 Front street.



CURTIS M. THORPE.

CURTIS MONROE THORPE was born in Orange county, New York, April 14, 1852. He received his education at Newburgh, New York. He is descended from French Huguenot and Colonial stock, some of his ancestors having been prominent in the affairs connected with the State of Connecticut. For the past eight years Mr. Thorpe has resided in Plainfield. He is a member of Trinity Reformed church, and is treasurer of the Young Men's Christian Association. In 1879 Mr. Thorpe married Miss Susan E. McCullough. They have never had any children.

HOMER J. WIGHTMAN was born at Morris, Otsego county, New York, March 29, 1867. He began teaching at the age of fifteen in an ungraded country school in New York State and has continued in educational work ever since, except while pursuing courses in the Cortland Normal school, and at Cornell University, from which institutions he is a graduate. He received his A. B. degree in 1890, and was immediately elected to the principalship of the Mt. Upton academy. The next year he became principal of the consolidated schools of Lewes, Delaware, where he remained until chosen to the position of superintendent of schools at Vineland, New Jersey. After serving as superintendent at Vineland, New Jersey, for five years, he was elected to his present position, that of superintendent of the North Plainfield public schools, a history of which he has prepared for this volume.

JOHN ABBOTT was born December 18, 1845, at London, England, where he received an education in the national schools. After leaving school he learned the trade of carpenter and builder, a vocation he has followed ever since. In 1886 Mr. Abbott located at Plainfield, where he now resides and is well and favorably known. He resides with his family at No. 413 West Front street. To his handiwork Plainfield owes many of her substantial business blocks and fine residences, prominent among which are the residences of Mrs. D. M. Moore, Mr. S. L. Schoonmaker, Mrs. Julia Van Buren, Mr. E. R. Ackerman, Mr. Philip V. R. Van Wyck, Mr. George H. Chapman, Mr. John T. Baker and many others.

WILLIAM HENRY ABBOTT is a native of Newark, N. J., having been born there May 25, 1874. While he was an infant his parents removed to Ithaca, N. Y., where he attended the public schools of that place until he was fourteen years of age. In 1888 his father removed from Ithaca to Plainfield, where young Abbott continued his studies, graduating from the high school in 1891. He is engaged in the real estate and insurance business, ranking as one of the leading operators in that line in Plainfield. Mr. Abbott is a Republican and a hard worker for the interests of his party. In 1899 he was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, a position he still fills. He is also a notary public. Mr. Abbott is a member of the First Presbyterian church and of Anchor Lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M. He is unmarried and resides with his father, John Abbott, Esq., at No. 413 West Front street. His business office is at No. 163 North avenue.

JOHN A. POWLISON, senior member of the well-known firm of Powlison & Jones, furniture dealers, was born at Pluckenheim, Somerset county, N. J., July 25, 1856. He was educated at Cooper Seminary, Bound Brook, and the Model School in Trenton. Mr. Powlison learned the trade of an upholsterer. About twelve years ago the present partnership was formed. The firm have one of the most complete furniture establishments in the State. The building they own and occupy is one of the most substantial in Plainfield. It is located at Nos. 149 and 151 East Front street, having a frontage of 43 feet and a depth of 100 feet, being three stories in height. The structure was erected in 1896 by Messrs. Powlison & Jones, the present owners. Mr. Powlison was married to Miss Sarah D. Jones, of Plainfield, May 14, 1884. Three children have been born to the union, two sons and a daughter, the latter now being deceased. Mr. Powlison, while not active in politics, is a staunch Republican. He has never held any office, preferring to devote his attention to business affairs. Mr. Powlison has been identified with the furniture business for the past twenty-three years. He was for about nine years connected with the house of R. R. Fairchild.

FRANK W. JONES, well known in Plainfield, and a member of the firm of Powlison & Jones, was born near Millington, Somerset county, N. J., September 17, 1860. He received his education in the public schools of Plainfield. His entire life has been devoted to the furniture business. He has resided at Plainfield for the past thirty years and enjoys a large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Jones was married November 25, 1890, to Miss Eleanor Augustus Lewis, of Plainfield. They are prominent members of the First Baptist church.

JOHN G. BANTLE, merchant, was born at Hohenzollern, Germany, in 1870, where he received his education.

After leaving school he learned the tailoring business, a vocation he has followed ever since. In 1894 Mr. Bantle decided to come to America. Arriving in New York, he remained in that city until 1897, when he located in Plainfield, where he opened an exclusive ladies' and gentlemen's tailoring establishment. Prior to his coming to America, Mr. Bantle was engaged with M. Sordelli, one of the most fashionable tailors of Paris, having an establishment at No. 39 Rue de l'Opera. He subsequently went to London, where he was engaged by a similar concern located in Regent street, one of London's most fashionable business thoroughfares. Since engaging in business for himself in Plainfield, Mr. Bantle has met with phenomenal success. His clients are among the most fashionable and wealthy families of this city. In April, 1899, he erected the handsome building he now occupies. It is well adapted for the purpose for which it was intended. The upper floors are used for workrooms and a ladies' parlor for taking measurements for suits. The ground floor is used for the sample-room, where a choice selection of fabrics are in stock for inspection, comprising a large assortment of the best goods obtainable. Mr. Bantle is ably assisted by a competent force of first-class workmen, and thoroughly skilled in the art of producing a well-fitting garment. In 1887 Mr. Bantle married Miss Wilhelmina Smith, a native of Hanover, Germany. They have two children—a son and a daughter. The family are members of St. Mary's Roman Catholic church.

THE JACKSON BUILDING.—One of the most imposing structures Plainfield possesses is the handsome Jackson building, at the southeast corner of West Front street and Madison avenue. It was erected by James W. Jackson, Esq., of Plainfield, in 1897. It embodies all the conveniences of the modern metropolitan apartment house, a purpose for which it is largely utilized. The building is four stories high, with a frontage of fifty feet and a depth of one hundred and seventy-five feet. The material used in its construction is cream-colored pressed brick with limestone trimmings. The first, or ground, floor is used for store purposes, while the three upper floors are divided into eighteen five-room apartments, every apartment having an outside exposure, bath and a private hall. These are equipped with gas ranges, electric lighting as well as gas, and an electric bell fire system throughout the building. The apartments, while affording all the luxuries to be desired, rent for an average of twenty dollars per month. The tenants are composed of some of Plainfield's best-known citizens. Messrs. Liefke & Laigne, of No. 146 Park avenue, are the managing agents for the property.

SCHWED BROTHERS.—Among the oldest mercantile establishments of Plainfield is the well-known clothing house of Messrs. Schwed Brothers, located on Front street, opposite Park avenue. In 1885 the firm established themselves in Plainfield, having formerly been located at Somerville, in which city they began business in 1870 and where they still maintain a branch store. This house enjoys the reputation of being one of the most reliable concerns in New Jersey, and its name and fame is by no means merely local. The individual members of the firm are Messrs. Charles, Herman and Isaac Schwed, who give their personal attention to the business, and they are ably assisted by several competent salesmen. Mr. Charles Schwed devotes his time and attention to the Somerville branch. The stock of men and boys' clothing carried compares favorably with that of the largest houses in the country. The present premises occupied by the





JOHN ABBOTT.  
Builder and Contractor.



WILLIAM H. ABBOTT.



L. WARREN RANDOLPH.





S. B. CARSON.

firm have a frontage on Front street of twenty-four feet and a depth of one hundred feet. A handsome new plate-glass front has recently been added which makes the store unusually handsome in appearance. Further improvements and additions are in contemplation by Messrs. Schwed. They have recently purchased the adjoining property, west, now occupied by R. J. Shaw's drug store. A new front will replace the present old one, and, when completed, this store will be occupied by the firm, making it one of the largest retail clothing establishments in the State. Messrs. Herman and Isaac Schwed reside in North Plainfield, while Charles makes his home at Somerville. They are citizens of the highest integrity and are esteemed wherever they are known. Their real estate investments in Plainfield are indisputable proofs of their deep interest in the city's welfare. Being the

representative merchants in their line in this vicinity, they deserve the success they have attained.

MOSES SCHLOSS was born at Newark, New Jersey, October 1, 1867. After receiving a careful education in the public schools of his native town, he engaged in mercantile pursuits. Mr. Schloss is a member of the well-known grocery firm, S. Scheuer & Co., who maintain large establishments in various cities in New Jersey. The Plainfield branch of the firm was opened April 13, 1895. Since that time Mr. Schloss has ably managed the affairs of the concern in that city. He is well known throughout northern New Jersey, and is extremely popular, commercially and socially.



# History of North Plainfield

## CHAPTER XVI.

### THE BOROUGH OF NORTH PLAINFIELD—BOROUGH OFFICERS FROM 1885 TO 1901, INCLUSIVE—PUBLIC SCHOOLS— FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The first election for the formation of a borough in North Plainfield township was held on February 17, 1885. The whole number of votes cast was 441, of which number 217 were cast for incorporation and 224 against. The election was declared lost.

A second election was held on June 4, 1885, under the general borough act of 1878, at which election 467 votes were cast; 248 votes were cast for incorporation and 219 against, and the election was declared carried. Phineas M. French was judge, Frank M. Whiteley, inspector, and H. N. Spencer, clerk of the board of election. The certificate of election was filed with the county clerk the following day and an election for officers was called for Tuesday, July 17, 1885. At this election the following named officials were declared duly elected: Mayor, John H. Van Winkle; councilmen—three years, David R. Weaver and Fred. M. Slater; two years, James H. Arnold and John A. Thickstun; one year, Peter Bronson and William H. Ludlow. W. E. Mattison was elected borough clerk. Five hundred dollars was voted for borough purposes.

The following is a complete list of officers elected and who have served in the borough government since:

- 1886—Mayor, J. H. Van Winkle; councilmen: James K. Arnold, S. St. J. McCutcheon, J. F. Riker, F. M. Slater, J. A. Thickstun and D. R. Weaver; borough clerk, W. E. Mattison; borough counsel, J. H. Jackson.
- 1887—Mayor, J. H. Cooley; councilmen: F. M. Slater, I. F. Riker, D. R. Weaver, Henry McGee, Alexander H. Milne, S. St. J. McCutcheon; borough clerk, James K. Arnold; borough counsel, J. H. Jackson.
- 1888—Mayor, J. H. Cooley; councilmen: I. F. Riker, H. E. Needham, Henry McGee, S. St. J. McCutcheon, Alexander H. Milne, Peter A. Emmons; borough clerk, James K. Arnold; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed. B. A. Hegeman was elected July 6 to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Alexander H. Milne.
- 1889—Mayor, J. H. Cooley; councilmen: N. B. Smalley, J. F. Buckle, J. M. Bettman, Henry McGee, H. E. Needham, Peter A. Emmons; borough clerk, James K. Arnold; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed.
- 1890—Mayor, Charles Place; councilmen: J. F. Buckle, Peter A. Emmons, Charles P. Sebring, N. B. Smalley, H. E. Needham, B. A. Hegeman, Jr.; borough clerk, H. H. Brokaw; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed.
- 1891—Mayor, Charles Place; councilmen: B. A. Hegeman, Jr., N. B. Smalley, J. F. Buckle, Charles P. Sebring, H. E. Needham, L. A. Hummer; borough clerk, H. H. Brokaw; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed. T. W. Powell was appointed councilman to fill the vacancy of N. B. Smalley, who resigned June 12, 1891. George D. Hallock was elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of J. F. Buckle, December 11, 1891.
- 1892—Mayor, William Saunders; councilmen: Charles P. Sebring, H. E. Needham, L. A. Hummer, B. A. Hegeman, Jr., M. L. Connolly, G. H. Neal; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, H. H. Brokaw.
- 1893—Mayor, W. L. Saunders; councilmen: M. L. Connolly, G. F. Edwards, L. A. Hummer, J. H. Howell, G. H. Neal, H. E. Needham; R. M. Fountain was elected in place of M. L. Connolly, who resigned; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, John Valliant.
- 1894—Mayor, H. E. Needham; councilmen: George F. Edwards, J. H. Howell, H. B. Lounsbury, G. H. Neal, J. C. Peck, John Valliant; Elmer E. Winkler was elected in place of councilman Edwards, who resigned; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, J. K. Arnold.
- 1895—Mayor, B. A. Hegeman, Jr.; councilmen: J. H. Howell, H. B. Lounsbury, J. C. Peck, William C. Smith, John Valliant, G. H. Neal; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, James K. Arnold.
- 1896—Mayor, B. A. Hegeman, Jr.; councilmen: H. B. Lounsbury, John G. McLoughlin, J. C. Peck, W. A. Schutt, John Valliant, L. B. Woolston; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, James K. Arnold.
- 1897—Mayor, John F. Wilson; councilmen: Murray Burtis, T. J. Carey, H. B. Lounsbury, John G. McLoughlin, W. A. Schutt, L. B. Woolston; George T. Rogers, in place of Councilman Lounsbury, resigned; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, J. K. Arnold.
- 1898—Mayor, John F. Wilson; councilmen: Murray Burtis, T. J. Carey, J. G. McLoughlin, George T. Rogers, John Valliant, L. B. Woolston, G. H. Ball, in place of T. J. Carey, resigned; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, James K. Arnold.
- 1899—Mayor, N. B. Smalley; councilmen: Murray Burtis, Robert Clark, Jr., Harrison Codington, George T. Rogers, S. S. Swackhamer, John Valliant; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, Frank Rowley.
- 1900—Mayor, N. B. Smalley; councilmen: S. S. Swackhamer, Charles A. Lee, Robert Clark, Jr., Harrison Codington, George T. Rogers, John Valliant; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, Frank Rowley.
- 1901—Mayor, N. B. Smalley; councilmen: S. S. Swackhamer, Charles A. Lee, Robert Clark, Jr., James P. Northrup, Harrison Codington, Charles S. Nichols; borough counsel, Charles A. Reed; borough clerk, Frank Rowley.

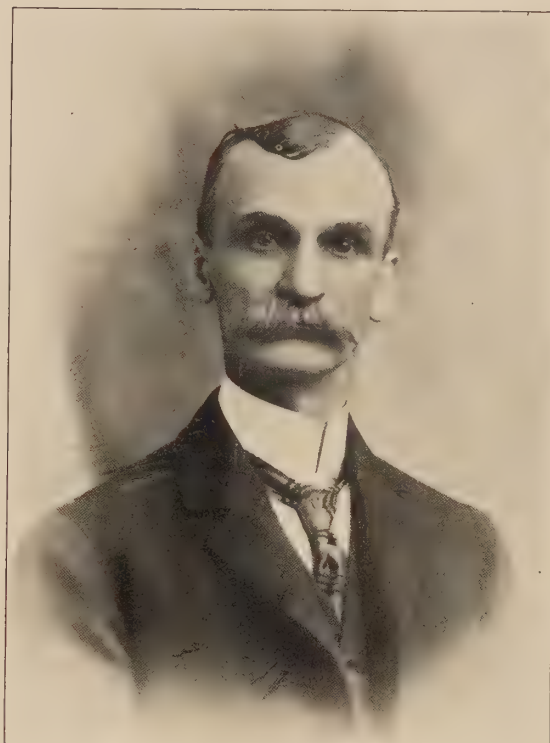
#### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The North Plainfield schools began their career April 7, 1856, at the annual meeting of the voters of School District No. 3, Warren township. The inhabitants met in Green Brook Valley schoolhouse, and by a majority vote decided upon a division of District No. 3. The minutes of the meeting read as follows: "Beginning at the southeast corner





HON. NEWTON B. SMALLEY,  
Mayor of North Plainfield.



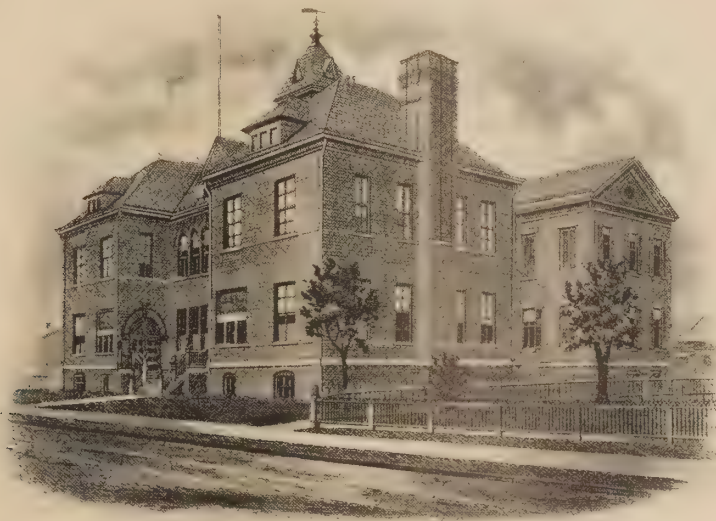
ROBERT CLARK, JR.

of Green Brook School District No. 1, in Green Brook, it being the southeast corner of John Stines' farm; thence with Stines' east line, it being the east line of Green Brook School District No. 1, following said line to where it unites with Stines' east line, it being the east line of Green Brook, said brook, to its bend, northwest of Hiram Miller's farm, thence an easterly course, with following the division line between Samuel Scott's and Smalley Mundy's, crossing the road leading from Plainfield to the factory to the southeast corner of James Verdon's farm, thence following the southeast line of said farm, thence north of Jephthah Clawson's dwelling to the north corner of Elijah Hotchkiss' farm, thence with the easterly and southerly line of said farm to Green Brook, thence along said brook to the place of beginning, which embraces the easterly and southerly portion of School District No. 3.

"The same evening at the same place, agreeable to legal notice, David Coon, Richard Elliot and Phineas M. French were elected trustees for the newly adopted North Plainfield School District No. 10, which name, being voted at the time; it was also voted to incorporate said district, legal no-

lot on the corner of Harmony, Warren, and Race streets for \$3,000, and state that J. Busby had been given the contract for the erection of a schoolhouse for \$1,500. For insurance, stove, fuel and complete furniture of this school, the trustees report the expenditure of \$64.40½. The first school census showed in 1857 one hundred and sixteen children between the ages of five and eighteen years. It seemed impossible for the district to raise the necessary money for the payment of the erection of the school building, and Dr. J. W. Craig, town superintendent, induced the district to apply to the State school fund for a loan of \$1,000. This was granted by the State on a bond and mortgage. This debt was not paid until the sale of this school property, over twenty-five years later. Charles E. Gause was the first teacher.

In 1865 the district voted \$180 for school purposes; in 1867, \$350.50; 1868, \$700; in 1869, \$1,500; in 1870, \$2,350. In 1870 P. M. French was made the first district clerk, at a salary of \$15 per year. In this year a part of the school was furnished with iron-framed desks, which was the subject for much public discussion.



NORTH PLAINFIELD HIGH SCHOOL.

tice having been given to that effect, and that the above name, North Plainfield School District, be our corporate name. John W. Craig, chairman."

On July 12, 1856, the legal voters of District No. 10 met and voted unanimously to raise by tax \$2,000 ("\$1,000 the present year and \$500 a year for the two succeeding years"), for the purpose of purchasing a lot and building a suitable schoolhouse. The following minute of the trustees occurs under date of December 4, 1856: "Whereupon the said assessor assessed the sum of one thousand dollars on the inhabitants of District No. 10, as provided by the above section. But, owing to dissatisfaction on the part of some of the inhabitants of the district, arising partly from opposition to the line of separation and others to onerous taxation, and together with the assessor omitting to tax the whole property of the district. Therefore, under the circumstances, the trustees and others thought best for the cause of education to direct the town collector, D. D. Smalley, to forego the collection of the tax. David Coon, president."

On April 6, 1857, the trustees report the purchase of a

In 1871 County Superintendent Frelinghuysen changed the boundary of District No. 10, so as to take in a part of former District No. 3, and the district was for the next twenty-three years known as District No. 38, of Somerset county.

The census of the enlarged district in 1871 gave 334 children between the ages of five and eighteen years. The school had two teachers and two assistants, and was confined to the two rooms in the school building.

On March 28, 1872, the district decided to add two rooms to the school building, and authorized the borrowing of \$3,000 for the purpose, but the trustees were unable to borrow money on the credit of the district. A bill was passed by the Legislature permitting the district to issue bonds, and in 1873 \$3,500 of bonds were issued, and two new rooms were added to the building. The school census in 1873 was 510, and five teachers were employed. In 1877 the Mission school on Chatham street was hired for the overflow of pupils.

Eighteen hundred and eighty marks the beginning of monthly trustee meetings, and a stronger public interest



in the schools. At the annual school meeting, held March 21, 1882, in compliance with a wish of the voters, Charles Place, chairman of the meeting, appointed a committee, consisting of James McGee, Phineas M. French and Henry K. Carroll, to make investigation as to the cost of a suitable site and building to accommodate the school children of the district. On May 2 the committee reported in favor of the purchase of the present lot on Somerset street and the erection of a twelve-roomed brick building, to be heated, ventilated and equipped according to the most modern ideas. The committee further recommended the issue of \$25,000 bonds. At a special meeting of the voters, held May 16, the trustees, William E. Jones, president; Theodore F. French, and F. H. Gardner, district clerk, were instructed to act in accordance with the report of the committee.

The new building was occupied the next year, 1883, and Charles E. Boss was chosen principal, who remained at the head of the school for thirteen years. The school now became a first-grade grammar school.

In 1888 H. K. Carroll, then president of the trustees, urged the construction of a new building, but all efforts toward this end were defeated until, at a special meeting, held May 11, 1893, the board of trustees, consisting of S. St. J. McCutcheon, president; Samuel Townsend, and S. B. Joseph, district clerk, asked the people to vote the issue of \$16,000 bonds for an addition to the front of the Somerset street school. This was voted, and eight classrooms and four offices were added. In 1894 the building was occupied, there being employed fourteen teachers besides the principal.

At the annual school meeting, March 20, 1894, C. A. Reed presented a resolution to the effect that it was the sense of the meeting that the district should furnish all pupils with free textbooks and supplies. The trustees were asked to investigate the subject, and on May 8 a special meeting was called and money was voted for the purpose of furnishing all books and supplies to pupils. In pursuance of the new school law, the county superintendent called a meeting of the voters of District No. 38 on July 20, 1894, and the school district of the borough of North Plainfield was formed by the election of the following members to the board of education: S. St. J. McCutcheon, Samuel Townsend, S. B. Joseph, John H. VanWinkle, Ezra Loomis, Wil-



MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

liam A. Schutt, George F. Brown, H. B. Wells, A. E. Overton.

Mr. S. St. J. McCutcheon was chosen president and the board organized under four committees—finance, teachers and studies, buildings and repairs, supplies and attendance. In 1894 the semi-annual promotion plan, after careful in-

vestigation by President McCutcheon, was begun in the first four grades of the school. In 1895 two years of high school work, including Latin, was introduced. This enabled pupils to enter the second year of the Plainfield high school.

In 1897 A. D. Warde, A. M., Ph. D., became principal, and a reformation of work and methods began. A full



WATCHUNG SCHOOL.

four years' high school course was outlined, and work begun to that extent that the school was placed upon the approved high school list of the State. The school enrolled 840 pupils, 90 of which were in the high school. Kindergarten work was established, and twenty-one teachers were employed in all the departments. There was a marked addition to the equipment of the school, and quite an extension of the use of books. The half-yearly promotion plan was extended through the grammar school to the eighth grade, and the high school and eighth grade went under the one-session plan of work, which made the school session from 8:20 A. M. to 12:50 P. M., and gave the afternoon for recreation, work, or study.

In 1898 Mr. H. J. Wightman, formerly superintendent of the Vineland, N. J., schools, became supervising principal. A complete science course was begun, and individual laboratory facilities were provided in physics and chemistry by the fitting up of a basement-room in the high school. A complete music course was established for all grades. A course of nature study was adopted, and a system of physical training suitable to classroom use was established in every grade. Vertical writing was introduced, and books in geography and spelling were placed in the upper primary and intermediate grades. Grade libraries were established in each classroom, and over 500 books were added to the same. The one-session plan was extended to all grades above the fourth year, and the plan was approved by a vote of 92 per cent. of the parents concerned. The total enrollment for the year was 952, census, 1,097. Twenty-four teachers were employed, and the German Reformed church was rented for an overflow class. A series of popular lectures by prominent professional and business men was established for the older pupils.

Eighteen hundred and ninety-nine marked a complete revision of all school courses, the introduction of medical examination, and inspection of pupils and schools, the establishment of a pedagogical library and also of a teachers' reference library, the abolition of final examinations as a means of promotion, the beginning of an art movement, which hung on the school walls during the year fifty-two large copies of the world's masterpieces. The revision and extension of high school work gave a large elective list of subjects and offered three four-year courses (classical,

scientific and advanced English) and two three-year courses (English and commercial).

Perhaps the most important addition was the three-year commercial course, which included typewriting, stenography and business subjects, with English and mathematics. The school received the certificate privilege from seventeen colleges and universities, including Cornell, Rochester, Oberlin, Smith, Wellesley, University of Pennsylvania, Dartmouth, Mt. Holyoke, etc. A new primary school building was opened at the corner of Watchung and Mountain avenues. This building was of brick and stone and furnished six large classrooms, four offices and storerooms and large playrooms in the basement. A system of sanitary crematory closets was installed. The heating, ventilation and lighting of the building was in accordance with the approved ideas. The building was immediately filled. Ninety per cent. of the teaching force were now professionally trained. Enrollment, 1,045; census, 1,105.

In 1900 an ungraded class was formed for pupils who needed individual attention for weakness in certain subjects. Generous donations for library extension were made by Charles W. McCutcheon, Walter M. McGee, George T. Rogers, John Valliant and Samuel St. J. McCutcheon. Hygienic drinking fountains were installed. The borough chief marshal was appointed truant officer, in accordance with the revised school laws.

Nineteen hundred and one marks a most important year in school matters. Mr. Charles W. McCutcheon donated \$2,500 (which sum was duplicated by the State) for the establishment of manual training. A four-roomed brick building was constructed on the Vine street side of the high school grounds and fully equipped for sloyd, joinery and carving, sewing and cooking. One room was equipped as an experimental laboratory for physics, chemistry, and botany. One room, designed as a drawing-room, was used for a business class consisting of upper grammar-grade pupils, who could remain in school but one or two years before being obliged to go to work.

The new course in drawing and manual training was approved by the State department and adopted as the model course of the State. A public exhibit of school work was made early in March, and at the opening of the manual training school classes were seen at regular work. A special appropriation of \$1,400 was asked for manual training purposes, which were practically unanimously voted at the

largest school meeting in the history of the schools. At the same meeting Mr. S. St. J. McCutcheon was re-elected, and was again chosen president of the board of education, which position he had held since March, 1892.

Another great advance of the year was the installation of a complete modern system of heating and ventilation and sanitary water closets at a cost of \$6,000. A system of piano instruction to pupils who showed musical talent and who did not have home opportunities for instruction was successfully undertaken, and the four school pianos used for the purpose. The teaching force now numbers thirty-three, including a supervisor of drawing and music, and Superintendent H. J. Wightman. The estimated value of school property, including furniture, apparatus, libraries, etc., is \$100,000.

#### NORTH PLAINFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The North Plainfield volunteer fire department was organized June 4, 1889, with four members, comprising H. J. Martin, J. D. Anderson, George H. Fairchild, and Howard Wilson.

At the second meeting, held June 18, same year, the following additional members were added: Peter H. Bennett, Julius J. Stahl, Edmund E. Pope, Samuel G. Taynor, John P. Emmons, Horace D. Pangborne, Patrick Kellegher, Edmund Mundy.

The department consists of two companies—Warren Engine, No. 1, located at No. 90 Somerset street, and West End Hose, No. 2, located on Harrison street, opposite Cedar street.

Warren Engine company, No. 1, is equipped with an Amoskeag steamer, 3,000 feet of hose, one hose cart, two ladders, and a full complement of tools; two three-gallon fire extinguishers, and four horses. The membership numbers thirty-eight.

West End Hose company have 1,000 feet of hose and one two-wheel hose cart, and twenty members.

The following is a list of chiefs and assistants who have served since organization: Horace J. Martin, June 18, 1889, to May 4, 1891; George H. Fairchild, May 4, 1891, to May 4, 1897; David Bodine, May 4, 1897, to May 1, 1898; George H. Fairchild, May 1, 1898, to May 1, 1900; William G. Debele, May 1, 1900, to May 1, 1901; Julius J. Stahl, May 1, 1901.





# History of North Plainfield

## CHAPTER XVII.

### NORTH PLAINFIELD CHURCHES.

#### CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS (EPISCOPAL).

The church of the Holy Cross, North Plainfield, was organized in 1868 and dedicated June 13, 1869. The Rev. Edward Embury erected at his own expense the building, costing nineteen thousand dollars, and presented it to the parish



HOLY CROSS CHURCH.

free of incumbrance. One of the provisions he made, however, was that the seats were to be always free. In 1876 the parish building was added to the property.

The first rector of the parish was the Rev. Edward Embury, who officiated from 1870 to 1873; his assistant was Alfred Goldsborough, who remained until 1872. The succeeding rectors were Charles W. Ward, who served from May 21 to November 29, 1873; C. W. Camp, April 5, 1874, to July 1, 1875; Charles C. Fiske, September 27, 1875, to December 6, 1876; T. Logan Murphy, who officiated from February 14, 1877, up to the time the present incumbent, the Rev. William M. Downey, began his labors, in 1899.

The condition of the church is now most excellent. It possesses a valuable property, it has a united and harmonious congregation, a large and flourishing Sunday-school.

The wardens of the church are George P. Dupce and Dr. J. H. Carman. The vestrymen are Charles L. Nichols, Thomas H. Pollard, E. C. Perkins, A. E. Faber and Horsley Barker.

#### ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

This congregation was organized by the Rev. Dr. E. Moldenke, pastor of St. Peter's Lutheran church of New York, July 3, 1892. In August, 1893, it was incorporated in the Articles of Incorporation of the State of New Jersey, accepting the following: "This congregation believes that the canonical books of the Old and New Testaments are the revealed word of God, and that the same are the only guide of faith and life. It furthermore believes that the confessional writings of the Evangelical Lutheran church, especially the unaltered Augsburg Confession and Luther's small and large catechisms, are the true and perfect interpretation of Holy Scripture."

For many years previous to the organization of St. Peter's church, the need of a strictly Lutheran church was felt by many devout and loyal members of the mother-church of Protestantism, who came from New York and elsewhere to Plainfield. In the early part of the summer of 1892 Mr. J. H. Koch, of Watchung avenue, canvassed the city in the interest of a Lutheran church and found a strong sentiment in its favor. The project thus started, developed, and a time was set for services. The first service was held in the Y. M. C. A. building and conducted by Rev. Moldenke, D.D. After worshipping there a number of times, the congregation removed to Warren chapel, and Rev. Ed. Kionka was called as pastor. Thus the congregation was called into existence. The people longed, however, for a home of their own, and in the spring of 1893 Mr. Koch purchased a very desirable site, 75x175 feet, at the corner of Grove street and Mercer avenue. In the same year it was determined to build. The contract was given to Pearson & Gayle. August 27 the cornerstone was laid. Rev. Dr. Heischmann, of Brooklyn, and Dr. E. Moldenke, of New York, preached on this happy occasion. By November, 1893, the church building was completed and was consecrated to the service of the Triune God. Thus the congregation moved into its own home amid great rejoicing. The people were glad to get into a church building of their own, and now say: "Peace be within thy walls and prosperity within thy palaces! Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of Hosts, my King and my God."

Rev. E. Kionka severed his connection with the congregation in January, 1897. Since that time the following



ST. PETER'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.

ministers served: Rev. Eyme, 1897-99; Rev. A. Schaeffer, 1899-1900; Rev. William Trebert, since July, 1900. The congregation has a beautiful property valued at \$7,000 and has it nearly all paid.

The Ladies' Aid Society has worked very faithfully in reducing the mortgage and in beautifying the interior of the





RESIDENCE OF MARTIN I. COOLEY,  
Rockview Terrace.



RESIDENCE OF W. W. HOWLAND,  
Rockview Avenue.



church. All the members work faithfully and peace and harmony reigneth among them. Since August, 1899, the evening services have been conducted in the English language.

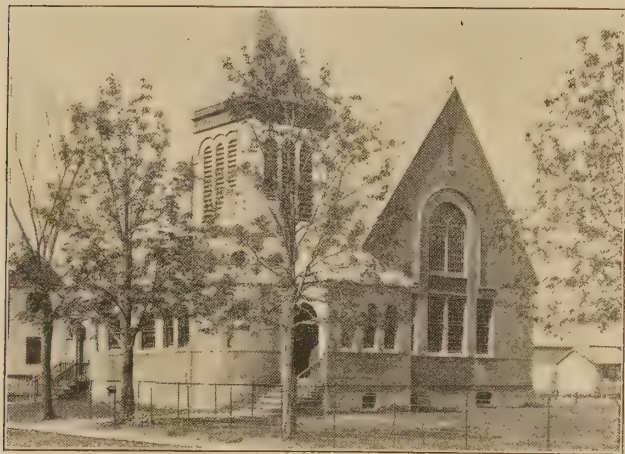
#### GRACE M. E. CHURCH.

Grace M. E. church was dedicated to the service of God on Sunday, February 21, 1892, by Bishop William X. Ninde. The nucleus of the society was formed by members from the First M. E. church of Plainfield, who, living in North Plainfield, felt that there was a field for a Methodist society in the borough, and an opportunity to exercise their gifts such as the parent society did not afford.

The new church was quickly and steadily reinforced by Christian families from other communions, who, living in the neighborhood, found it convenient to worship with the Methodists of North Plainfield. The evangelistic spirit characterized this body of Christian workers from the beginning. Their efforts to save the children from lives of sin by leading them to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, and their endeavors to lead men and women to forsake sinful ways and turn to God, were, from the first, crowned with a large measure of success.

From a nucleus of seventy-five members, with which the society began its history, it has grown to such proportions that it starts out upon its tenth year with a membership of over two hundred and seventy and a Sunday-school numbering more than three hundred. From the time of the dedication of the church building until the annual meeting of the Newark Conference, in April, 1892, a period covering about six weeks, Dr. H. K. Carroll served, under the presiding elder, as pastor and preacher-in-charge.

At the above-named session of the Newark Annual Conference, Rev. Herbert F. Randolph was appointed by the presiding bishop to oversee this new work in Plainfield, and continued to serve in this capacity until April, 1895, when Rev. H. J. Johnston received the appointment of the con-



GRACE M. E. CHURCH.

ference and began his work as pastor. His administration covered a period of three years.

In April, 1898, Rev. G. W. Gardner, the present pastor, by the appointment of Bishop Goodsell, was made preacher-in-charge.

Dr. H. K. Carroll was elected as president of the board of trustees when the society was organized and has continued

in that capacity ever since that time. John Valiant has served as superintendent of the Sunday-school from the beginning.

The personnel of the official board of the church, as constituted at the time of the writing of this sketch, is as follows: Trustees of church and parsonage property—H. K. Carroll, W. H. Combs, W. J. Conroy, John Steiner, Andrew



GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH.

Wilson, E. E. Winkler, John Valliant, E. A. Vermeule and Jacob Voehl. Stewards—H. DeMott, George H. Fairchild, C. W. Harden, C. E. A. Heywood, R. Hoagland, J. S. Lunger, George Nelson, E. P. Stevens and Edward Stein. Connected with the church there are the following organizations and societies: Epworth League, senior and junior; Ladies' Aid, Woman's Home Missionary Society, King's Daughters' Circle, and Mother's Jewels.

In the spring of 1899 the new parsonage on the lot adjoining the church was completed and furnished as a home for the pastor.

The church and parsonage property is valued at \$20,000.

On Sunday, February 24, 1901, this church celebrated its ninth anniversary, at which time an indebtedness of nearly \$3,000 was wiped out by the generous and self-sacrificing gifts of its loyal members and friends.

This young church looks into the future with a buoyant hope and a bright prospect of large usefulness.

#### THE GERMAN REFORMED CHURCH.

The German Reformed church of Plainfield was organized in 1851. Since the organization the church has had eleven pastors, viz: Revs. Oerter, Nuf, Wolf, Tchabhorn, Switzer, Schnellendressler, Vait, Schmitzer, Schluder, Koechli, and the present pastor, the Rev. George Hauser. The present church



edifice was dedicated in 1886. The services are conducted in German. The membership is large and among its numbers are many of Plainfield's representative German citizens.

#### ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.

St. Joseph's church was established by the late Bishop O'Farrell in the year 1881. Previous to this time the Catholics of North Plainfield attended St. Mary's church, Plain-

field. Father O'Hanlon, the first pastor, celebrated mass in the beginning in a hall on Somerset street; then in the old public school, until the present church edifice was dedicated, March, 1883. After a pastorate of seven years, he was succeeded by Father Freeman. In the year 1891 Father McKernan became rector, and on April 20, 1893, he was succeeded by the present incumbent, the Rev. William H. Miller. In 1898 a convent and home was erected for the Sisters of Mercy.



ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH.







plainfield  
PUBLIC  
library

---

800 Park Avenue  
Plainfield, NJ 07060  
908-757-1111

PLAINFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 9510 3000 0866 4



